

Saunders goes to court on three charges

Night in custody for ex-Guinness chief

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Mr Ernest Saunders, the former Guinness chief executive and once one of Britain's most powerful businessmen, was yesterday charged with attempting to pervert the course of justice by Scotland Yard's fraud squad after spending the night in police custody.

He is also accused of two other charges linked to the Guinness affair of falsifying and destroying documents.

The charges laid against Mr Saunders, the first to emerge from the Guinness investigation, were put at Bow Street Magistrates' Court in central London yesterday.

Mr Saunders, aged 51 and described on the police charge sheet as unemployed, was remanded by the court into

The Saunders' neighbours say they will miss them as the house goes up for sale page 20

the custody of his solicitor as efforts are made to meet bail and sureties of up to £500,000 by early next week.

Mr Saunders is accused of three offences which are alleged to have been committed between December 1 1986, and January 30, 1987. He is alleged to have attempted to pervert the course of justice contrary to common law and is also charged under section 450(1) of the 1985 Companies

Act of destroying documents and of falsifying documents.

The address of the former executive and chairman of Guinness was given by police both as his home at Penn, Buckinghamshire, and his solicitor's office in Holborn.

Mr Saunders was at Holborn Police Station before being taken to Bow Street Magistrates' Court late yesterday morning. Yesterday afternoon Mr Saunders came into court in a dark blue pinstriped suit and a blue and white shirt and tie covered by a pullover. Throughout the hearing he remained silent.

Detective Superintendent Richard Borwight, from the fraud squad and the senior arresting officer, objected to bail.

After listening to Mr John Matthews, QC, for Mr Saunders, the magistrate, Mr Jeffrey Breen, said he was thinking of bail of two sureties each of £250,000.

After an adjournment Mr Matthews said time would be needed to raise suitable bail or sureties. The magistrate agreed to remand Mr Saunders into the custody of Mr Stephen Ralph, Mr Saunders's solicitor and a partner in a leading London law firm.

According to the terms of the undertaking, Mr Saunders will stay at Mr Ralph's home or at the law firm offices in the presence of either Mr Ralph or a responsible person nominated on his behalf.

The magistrate also ordered the surrender of Mr Saunders's passport; there should be no further application for any travel document, and no contact with any past or present employee of Guinness.

Mr Saunders will return to court next Tuesday afternoon when the question of bail will be further discussed.



Mr Saunders leaving Bow Street Magistrates' court after yesterday's hearing



The Duchess of York at the controls of a Bulldog single-propeller aircraft yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Duchess loops the loop

By Alan Hamilton

The Duchess of York, not content with merely gaining her private pilot's licence, yesterday took adventure one step further and looped the loop high above Lincoln Cathedral.

Her flowing red hair encased in a flying helmet and her body secured to the seat by a five-point harness, the Duchess savoured her first taste of aerobatics during a visit to the celebrated Red Arrows team at RAF Scampton, Lincolnshire, while her husband watched from the ground.

The Duchess, in a khaki flying suit, flew in a Bulldog two-seater single-propeller training aircraft. In the other seat was Squadron Leader David Walby, an instructor at the RAF Central Flying School who taught the Duke of York and Prince Edward to fly.

The Duke and Duchess were visiting Scampton to mark the opening of the twenty-third season of the Red Arrows aerobatic display team. The team performed a special manoeuvre for their guests, flying in the formation of a heart.

Kinnock bars far left from election group

By Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock has excluded the far left from a tightly knit group which he has assembled to run the Labour Party's general election campaign.

Plans have been drawn up for the crucial meeting to discuss the party's election manifesto which will be held within 24 hours of Mrs Margaret Thatcher announcing the date.

Both moves are designed to avoid the confusion which has bedevilled Labour's campaign organization in 1983 and the likelihood of an internal dispute over the contents of the manifesto which has occurred at past elections.

The campaign committee members are acknowledged Kinnock supporters. Those from the Shadow Cabinet are Mr Roy Hattersley, the deputy leader, Mr Gerald Kaufman, the shadow home secretary, Mr Jack Cunningham, the shadow environment secretary, Mr Bryan Gould, the campaign coordinator, and Mr John Smith, the shadow trade and industry secretary.

From the national executive are Mr David Blunkett, Mr Tom Sawyer, of the National Union of Public Employees,

Miss Betty Boothroyd, Mrs Diana Jevons and Mr Tony Clarke. Mr Ron Todd, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, is also a member.

A handful of others may well be added.

The group has been meeting for some months under the title of the "leader's committee". It has been deliberately streamlined to avoid what was generally agreed to be a shambles of a campaign committee last time when there was considerable uncertainty over who the members were supposed to be.

At different times between 30 and 60 would turn up. And on one celebrated occasion Mr James Mortimer, then party secretary, emerged from a campaign committee meeting to suggest that Mr Michael Foot's leadership had been called into question.

If the Prime Minister announces an election on Monday, the so-called Clause 5 meeting of Labour's Shadow Cabinet and national executive committee, required under the party constitution to draw up the manifesto, will be held on Tuesday, Labour sources disclosed yesterday.

The meeting will be presented with a manifesto draft written by Mr Kinnock and his senior political colleagues.

There will be no repetition of the 1983 muddle when, in order to avoid a certain row, the Clause 5 meeting simply adopted as the manifesto the 15,000-word campaign document published two months earlier. It won from one senior shadow minister the description of "the longest suicide note in history".

The trickiest debate could again come on defence. The draft is expected to emphasize that Labour will do nothing to undermine East-West disarmament negotiations.

It will state, as Mr Kinnock made clear before his trip to see President Reagan, that cruise missiles can stay pending a deal between the superpowers to remove all intermediate nuclear forces from Europe.

The Labour leadership was strongly criticized yesterday by the left-wing journal *Tribune* for its action in suspending the black activist, Miss Sharon Atkin, as a parliamentary candidate. It said that the action would haunt the campaign.

Far right surge in S Africa election

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

South African white politics shifted sharply to the right yesterday as the extreme right-wing Conservative Party (CP) displaced the liberal Progressive Federal Party (PFP) as the official opposition in the white House of Assembly.

With results declared for all 166 directly elected seats in the Assembly, the final position of the parties was: President Botha's ruling National Party (NP), 125; Dr Andries Treurnicht's CP, 20; the PFP, led by Mr Colin Eglin, 19; the New Republic Party (NRP), whose leader, Mr Bill Sutton, lost his seat, one; and Independents, one.

The lone Independent is Mr Wynand Malan, a former MP, who comfortably held his Randburg constituency in Johannesburg against the NP.

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from which he resigned. It seems that the only way the PFP could regain its role as official opposition would be if Mr Malan and the single NRP MP decided to join it.

Mr Eglin said last night that it was "frightening" to think that the House of Assembly would now have a leader of the opposition who would be attacking the Government for being too liberal.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, and the conservative Zulu leader, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, were among prominent blacks to express alarm at the result. Archbishop Tutu said South Africa had entered "the darkest age in its history", while Chief Buthelezi was "totally appalled".

Mr Botha's party saw its share of the popular vote drop from 57 per cent in 1981 to just over 52 per cent, still enough to give it a large majority and nine seats more than the 116 it had at dissolution.

As the majority party, the NP is also guaranteed all of the four nominated seats and probably six of the eight indirectly elected seats (allocated in proportion to party strength) which make up the Assembly's full complement of 178 seats.

The vagaries of the first-past-the-post voting system means the CP's one-seat margin over the PFP was much narrower than the difference in their share of the vote, the CP polling 26 per cent to the PFP's 14 per cent, which was a sharp decline on the 19 per cent the PFP scored in 1981.

The CP gained 13 seats from the NP, mainly in rural areas of Transvaal, but also lost 10, mostly in urban areas.

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Sunshine fillip for Labour

Good weather yesterday raised Labour hopes of seizing control of more councils, because it was expected to increase turn-out to an above-average 45 per cent. A good turn-out traditionally helps Labour.

Before yesterday Labour controlled 160 to the Tories' 152 councils.

However, the Conservatives, though expecting to lose seats, were still convinced that the indications of their support would be good enough to persuade Mrs Thatcher to go for an election on June 11.

Ministers are hopeful that despite the expected calling of an early election they will be able to salvage a good proportion of the Government's legislative programme.

INSIDE

Marathon list in The Times

With a world record number of finishers expected in the London Marathon on Sunday, *The Times* will publish the names of all of them on Monday and Tuesday. Those who record under three hours will have their results printed on Monday. The remainder will follow on Tuesday.

Men on the run, page 35
World record attempt, page 38

Share inquiry

Ladbroke, the betting shop, leisure and property group, asked the Stock Exchange to conduct an official inquiry into "unusual dealings" in its shares, after several days of wild price fluctuations. Page 21

Actor dies

Colin Blakely, the veteran stage, film and television actor, died of leukaemia in a London hospital. He was 56. Obituary, page 16

Portfolio Gold

● The £4,000 prize in *The Times* Portfolio Gold competition was shared yesterday by two readers. Details, page 3.
● There is another £4,000 to be won today. Portfolio list, page 27.

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Doubts grow as Hart goes home

From Michael Binyon, Washington

Mr Gary Hart, the Democratic front runner, yesterday abruptly cancelled a campaign appearance in New Hampshire, and flew back to his Denver home with his wife, saying they needed time together.

Although the former senator insisted that his presidential campaign would continue, doubts were growing over his candidacy as his popularity ratings plummeted after the controversy over his relationship with a Miami model.

Mr Hart said in a statement to reporters in Groveton: "While running for president is important, right now my family is more important. The American people will have plenty of time to assess my candidacy. Today Lee and I are returning to Denver, home and family."

He said they were going to take a few days or even a few weeks off to be together. But he insisted his campaign would continue.

Mr Hart's spokesman would not say whether this sudden change meant that the former Colorado senator was assessing his candidacy. But his political adviser, Mr Joe Trippi, said: "Nothing is to be gained by continuing campaign appearances in the current atmosphere."

He said the postponement of campaigning would not hurt Mr Hart's fund-raising efforts, but "we have to admit that in terms of prospects for new contributions, obviously it's going to be tough. This slows it down."

A poll in New Hampshire showed that since Sunday, when the *Miami Herald* alleged Mr Hart had spent a night alone in his Washington

Photograph 6
Spectrum 10

house with Miss Donna Rice, support for his candidacy had fallen dramatically from 32 to 17 per cent.

In Iowa, where Mr Hart had some 65 per cent of the Democratic vote last week, he registered a 9 per cent drop. He is still the front-runner in both states, but the repercussions of the affair have clearly shaken his campaign, possibly fatally.

A questionnaire in Iowa showed the state was divided on the question of womanizing. Some 43 per cent said it would be a political mistake for the Democratic Party to nominate a candidate known to have had extra-marital affairs; 46 per cent said it would not be a mistake, and 11 per cent did not know.

Last-minute rush for Rolls shares

By Cliff Feltham

The Rolls-Royce aero engine giant was heading for a spectacular return to the private sector yesterday after the £1.36 billion flotation was more than twice oversubscribed.

About 1.25 million investors rushed for a stake in the business, increasing the prospects of the 85p partly-paid shares going to a handsome premium of up to 30p when dealings start next week.

The late demand for the shares - which at one stage saw the City run out of application forms - triggered a clawback arrangement whereby the big City institutions release another huge block of shares to the public.

Mr Christopher Clarke, a director of Samuel Montagu, the merchant bank handling the issue, said it had been an outstanding success.

"It was slow to start with but then really caught the

imagination and in the end it seemed everyone wanted to apply," he said.

A queue 200 yards long stretched outside a City branch of National Westminster Bank handling the applications and at a City department of the Midland Bank desperate investors tried to force their application forms under the doors as the deadline approached. "We had to put sticky tape under the doors to stop them," said an official.

The late rush brought down the guillotine on the number of shares released, a further 79 million for the public.

This means there is less chance of the organizers having to run a ballot to find out which investors will receive shares. The minimum application was for 400 shares, costing £340.

Details, page 21

Ferry firm 'shocking', says judge

By David Sapsted

Townsend Thoresen's scornful dismissal in 1985 of a captain's suggestion for the installation of door warning lights on ferry bridges was yesterday branded as "quite shocking" by the judge heading the Herald of Free Enterprise inquiry in London.

Mr Justice Sheen also accused a Townsend director, Mr Jeffrey Develin, of lying to the inquiry as to when he had first been alerted to the need for warning lights.

Initially Mr Develin, formerly the company's chief marine superintendent, told the inquiry he had only considered the matter after the Herald sank on March 6. Evidence was then produced of a memo dated June, 1985, to Mr Develin from a captain on one of the Herald's sister ships.

Captains' warning, page 3

Japan offers to buy off high-tech Briton's idea

By Tony Dawe

It took the Department of Trade and Industry three years and two months to award Mr Dan Taylor just 6 per cent of the money he needed to put Britain ahead in high-technology car component manufacturing.

It took the Japanese just three weeks and two days to arrive at his foundry with an offer, worth millions of pounds, to buy the entire business once they heard of the revolutionary casting process he has developed.

Yesterday Mr Taylor's process went on show at the Science Museum in London. He is expected to be one of the first people to benefit from the new Centre for the Exploitation of Science and Technology created by the Government to fill a void in British research and development.

But the new technique could easily have been lost to the nation because of the lack of money available for research and development.

The "lost foam" process, so named because hot metal vapourizes polystyrene moulds and takes their shape, has been developed solely because of the determination of one man and his willingness to risk everything he owned for the venture.

Mr Taylor, who owns and runs Auto Alloys of Blackwell, Derbyshire, sought financial help from the Department of Trade and Industry to develop the process. It took the department more than three years to award him £22,250.

But when news of his success leaked out, it took the Mitsubishi Corpora-

tion less than four weeks to arrive at his foundry with plans to take over the entire business.

Scores of other foreign companies have followed Mitsubishi's lead, but Mr Taylor said yesterday: "I never tried to raise finance by selling an interest in the company and I do not intend to start now."

Yesterday was the proudest day of Mr Taylor's business career, as he handed samples of his casting process to Dr Neil Cossons, director of the Science Museum.

But seven years ago, Mr Taylor wondered whether the business he had set up after being demotivated from the RAF could survive the recession. "I realized then that I was not going to make a profit using current

technology", he said.

"But I knew that the Steel Castings Research Association had been working on a new process and had produced some nice castings in the laboratory. I decided that if I could make it work commercially it would put profitability back into the foundry business."

So in 1981 Auto Alloys became the first company to get a licence from the research body to develop the process.

Two years later, as Mr Taylor struggled to make it work, his company was placed on a government "hit list" as the Department of Trade considered asset stripping some of the smaller foundry firms to help the bigger ones survive.

Continued on page 20, col 5

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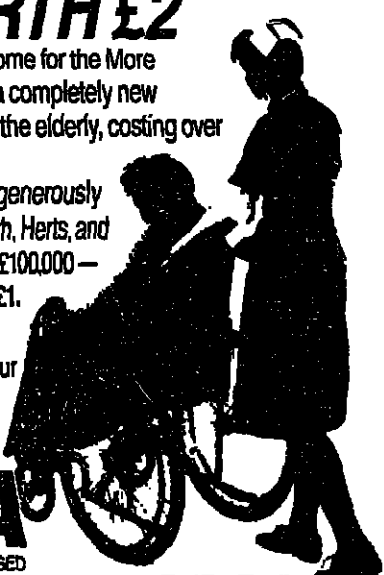
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NEWS SUMMARY

Inquiry into jet engine break-up

A full investigation has been ordered into how an engine on a British Airways jumbo jet began to break up in mid-air over central London (Our Air Correspondent writes).

As the jet, flying in from New York with 242 passengers and 17 crew on board, touched down at Heathrow the engine exploded completely, scattering dozens of stainless steel turbine blades along the runway and damaging the engine cowling, the wings and fuselage.

No funds for Left

The right-wing electricians union, the EETPU, is to put up about £200,000 in the forthcoming general election campaign for "good, decent, moderate Labour candidates".

The electricians' leader, Mr Eric Hammond, and his executive took the decision after receiving recommendations from their political committee.

Hard-left Labour candidates will get no money from the union nor will candidates who are fighting seats that Mr Hammond and his colleagues think are a lost cause.

Sir Hugh buried

Sir Hugh Fraser, the former chairman of the House of Fraser chain of stores, who died on Tuesday, was buried yesterday near the grave of his father, the first Lord Fraser. After a service at his mother's home in Milngavie, near Glasgow, a few dozen mourners saw him buried at Kilmarnock cemetery, near Drymen, Stirlingshire.

One of the pall bearers was Mr Tiny Rowland, who ousted Sir Hugh from House of Fraser.

Pay case go-ahead

Miss Julie Hayward, a canteen cook from Prenton, Birkenhead, was yesterday given leave in the House of Lords to take further her legal battle for equal pay with men at Cammell Laird, the shipbuilders.

Lord Bridge said that he felt it appropriate to grant leave to appeal. The Court of Appeal refused last March to declare that her basic pay and overtime should be the same as that of male employees.

It ruled that she had the benefit of bonuses which made her terms and conditions no less favourable.

Finger bitten off

A man was undergoing an emergency operation yesterday after his finger was bitten off when a group of men burst into a condom-makers' sales conference at the Grand Hotel, Brighton.

The severed finger was found beneath a piano. Two other people were treated in hospital. Sussex police said that six people had been arrested.

Murder suspect freed by Dublin High Court

By Richard Ford

An escaper from the Maze prison who is wanted for murder in Northern Ireland walked free from the Irish Republic's High Court yesterday when judges quashed an order for his extradition.

Patrick McIntyre was freed when judges ruled that his detention by the Gardaí while he was on the run from police in Northern Ireland had been unlawful.

Mr McIntyre, from Letterkenny in County Donegal, had absconded after being released on parole from the Maze jail last December.

A district justice had granted an order for his extradition to Northern Ireland on 21 warrants in connection with the mass breakout from the Maze prison three years ago. Mr McIntyre was one of 38 prisoners who broke out of the jail but was recaptured almost immediately. One of the warrants alleges the murder of a prison officer during the escape.

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc

Alteration to Interest Rate



The Royal Bank of Scotland plc announces that the monthly rate of interest charged to its Access cardholders will be reduced from 2% to 1.75% per month (equivalent to an annual percentage rate of 23.1%) with effect from 1 June 1987. From that date the new rate will be applied to all interest bearing balances, cash advances and to purchases attracting interest for the first time.

The first sentence of Condition 10 of The Royal Bank of Scotland Access Conditions of Use is amended accordingly.

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Baker wants more spent on computers

By John Clare
Education Correspondent

Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced yesterday that he is planning to take greater control over how local education authorities spend money in schools.

He said the money available

to authorities through education support grants would rise from £64 million this year to £80 million in 1988-89. Instead of receiving the money automatically, authorities would have to undertake to spend it on projects approved by the department.

Mr Baker said he wanted most of the new grant to be spent on encouraging the use

of computers in schools by pupils of all ages. He also wants authorities to spend more on books and equipment for the new GCSE examination, on combating the misuse of drugs, and on encouraging schools to try alternatives to French as pupils' first foreign language.

● Fears that proposals by the Government for university

funding could seriously damage scholarship and research were voiced yesterday by Professor Sir Mark Richmond, the vice-chancellor of Manchester University.

In a White Paper last month, the Government said it planned to replace grants to universities with a system of contract funding so as to make

institutions more responsive to the demands of students and employers.

But Sir Mark said such a system could turn universities into "high throughput training factories". He said the test of a successful contract was likely to be value for money, with the money tightly controlled and the value judged primarily as short-term benefit.

One in ten health staff assaulted last year

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

One in 10 health workers has been the victim of a violent attack in the past year, according to a report from the Health and Safety Commission.

The report, published yesterday, shows that national health service staff are far more vulnerable to attack than other employees.

The study, based on a survey of 5,000 health service staff in five health authorities, shows that one in 200 staff suffered injuries needing medical treatment after being attacked in the past 12 months.

That is more than double the rates of assault in the construction industry, where one in 436 staff is attacked, and five times the rate in manufacturing where only one in a thousand is a victim.

The survey, on doctors, nurses, ambulance staff and other health service workers, showed that one in 10 staff needed first aid after an attack, one in 20 health staff had been threatened with weapons, including knives and broken bottles, and one in six staff had been verbally abused.

The highest incidence of attacks is in psychiatric and geriatric units where up to one in four staff suffered minor injury, while the most vulnerable staff are ambulance men, student nurses and staff in accident and emergency departments.

"There have been instances of people suffering deep puncture wounds, being knocked unconscious and even some fatalities", Mr Pat Woodcock, chairman of the commission's health services advisory committee, said.

Ambulance men were particularly exposed to violence because they often had to deal with over-excited victims and witnesses.

"Student nurses often do not have the experience to be able to face up to potentially violent situations, and do not know how to react", Mr Woodcock said.

Most attacks occur in hospitals or on community visits, and are made by patients, although the commission fears that community staff are at increasing risk from muggers, particularly in inner city areas.

Dr John Cullen, the commission's chairman, said that health service employers, who had a statutory duty to protect staff under the Health and Safety at Work Act, should try to reduce the risk of violence and offer training in the prevention and management of violence.

"Only 10 per cent of the survey respondents said they had received any relevant training at all", Dr Cullen said.

The report recommends:

- More friendly waiting areas, with patients being given some idea of the length of time they will have to wait;
- Furniture designed so that it cannot be used as a weapon;
- Personal alarms or panic buttons;
- Pooling information on potentially violent patients;
- Accompanying junior or inexperienced staff, so that they are not left to cope on their own when the risk of violence is high;
- Monitoring home visits, with extra precautions such as visiting in pairs; use of two-way radio; liaison with the police.

Mr Antony Newton, Minister for Health, said yesterday that he would ask the health service management board to ensure that health authorities gave urgent consideration to the report's findings.

Mr Newton said he would also refer the report to the Advisory Committee on Violence to Staff set up by the Department of Health and Social Security in December. The Health and Safety Commission questionnaire survey was carried out in Newcastle, Exeter, Birmingham, Croydon and Fife.

MP takes up case of 'brainwashing'

By Richard Evans, Political Correspondent

The case of a British Army officer "brainwashed" while held in solitary confinement for 55 days in Sweden on suspicion of drugs smuggling is to be raised in the Commons next week by a Conservative MP.

Captain Simon Hayward, aged 31, who serves in the Life Guards, was arrested in March after the car in which he was travelling was stopped by Swedish police who discovered £500,000 worth of cannabis concealed inside. The green X-registration Jaguar belonged to the army officer's brother.

Mr John Gort, MP for Hendon North, and a British Embassy official visited Captain Hayward on Monday at Uppsala police headquarters 37 miles north of Stockholm where he has been held in solitary since the day of his arrest.

Mr Gort said last night: "I was very distressed to notice his mental condition". He appeared disorientated and gave emotional responses "which are consistent with some of the experiences

described by brainwashed prisoners of war in Vietnam". Captain Hayward, who has not been charged with any offence, has consistently maintained his innocence. Others arrested at the time are said by Swedish police to have admitted their part in the drug smuggling affair.

Mr Gort fears Swedish police have got so little evidence against the detained British "they are hoping they will be able to disadvantage him in the witness box after such a lengthy period of solitary confinement".

Under Swedish law, because of the time Captain Hayward has been held, a trial would have to take place within five days of charges being made, the MP said.

In an adjournment debate next week Mr Gort is expected to protest to the Foreign Office that the length of time the army officer has been held in solitary is not consistent with the European Convention on Human Rights.

'Cross-border' patients plea

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Regional health authorities should intervene in districts either unilaterally or negotiate a "service contract" whereby two or more districts share the cost of the service, the association suggested.

Brighton health authority is refusing to admit non-residents for certain treatments unless extra payments are made.

Under the present funding system health authorities do not charge each other but are reimbursed for patients from other districts two years in arrears, based on the national average cost of the case.

The association is concerned that unilateral cross-charging could discriminate against individual patients needing particular treatments.

At least one London health authority is refusing to admit non-residents for certain treatments unless extra payments are made.

Where districts failed to agree to such a contract the regional health authority should always be the final arbiter, the working party said.

Research groups for sale

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

The Government yesterday took the unprecedented step of offering two of its most successful and internationally regarded research institutes to a private buyer.

Privatization of the National Seed Development Organization and of a substantial part of the Plant Breeding Institute's assets was confirmed in the Commons yesterday by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

Serious prospective purchasers will receive a prospectus containing confidential material, issued by the merchant bank, Lazard Brothers. They will have until June 12 to submit offers.

The strike will last until midnight tonight and a decision on further action will be taken in a few weeks' time.

Airports caught in Whitehall protest

By Tim Jones

The flow of aircraft into and out of Heathrow and Gatwick airports was restricted yesterday as air traffic control assistants began a two-day strike as part of the pay campaign by two Civil Service unions.

The Civil Aviation Authority said the absence of assistants who were attending a meeting had not endangered safety, but gave a warning that there could be delays.

Customs officers also joined the strike and honesty boxes were placed in customs halls but the Customs and Excise denied the airport had become a "smugglers' paradise". It said that response to the strike had been "patchy" and that Gatwick airport was working more or less normally.

Mr Michael Lowe, branch secretary of the Civil and Public Services Association, claimed the strike had received virtually 100 per cent backing from union members.

The strike will last until midnight tonight and a decision on further action will be taken in a few weeks' time.

2,000 schools will have to close

The Government has told local education authorities that although they are no longer bound to shut small village schools, it still expects them to close the equivalent of about 2,000 primary and secondary schools in England.

A circular published yesterday by the Department of Education and Science says that because of falling pupil numbers 350,000 primary and 780,000 secondary places will have to be taken out of the system by 1991.

The total number of surplus places, first announced in the public expenditure White Paper in January, is 300,000 more than was proposed in a draft document last August.

Speech device will aid disabled

By Robert Matthews

A British electronics expert was forced to sell his house to raise money for a breakthrough in technology for the disabled that is attracting world-wide interest.

Mr David Blackborow, aged 30, has found a way of making a device for £150 that can understand speech and pass on commands to a computer.

Speech recognition systems typically cost thousands of pounds, putting them beyond the reach of many handicapped people.

The device, called Micro-Voice, enables even the totally paralysed to do many tasks by remote control using just their voices, from switching the lights to writing letters by dictation to a computer.

Mr Blackborow said yesterday that he had been able to overcome the cost barrier by taking a relatively simple approach to the problem of speech recognition, which requires the use of one microchip.

He had the idea for the device while working for a computer company, but says that, in spite of its potential, the management refused to take it up.

The company later went out of business, but by then Mr Blackborow had decided to set up his own firm.

"If you want to do anything badly enough, you have to put everything on the line".

His move from Cambridge to Cornwall came after an enthusiastic response to his plans from the county council's industrial development office, and support from the National Westminster bank.

Mr Blackborow's company, R&D Speech Technology, has seven employees, and is getting orders from as far afield as Oman, Israel and Australia.

Next month, the company will launch a development of the device that will help in the treatment of speech impediments.

Patients will say specific words into the Micro-Voice's microphone, and the device will create a "picture" of the sound. That can then be compared with the correct sound for the word, enabling speech therapists to identify where the problems lie.

However, Mr Blackborow sees the low cost of the Micro-Voice system creating a market far beyond that of the handicapped alone.

He believes he has succeeded where others had failed because he has taken a pragmatic view of the technology needed to do the job, like the personal computer company, Amstrad: "I suppose you could say that I've tried to do an Alan Sugar", he said.

MI5 plot 'leaked by Whitehall'

Leaks from the security service about the alleged MI5 plot to topple the former Prime Minister, Mr Harold Wilson, were agreed to by the Government, it was claimed in the High Court yesterday.

The accusation came as *The Guardian* and *The Observer* newspapers sought to lift or vary injunctions banning them from publishing any disclosures from Mr Peter Wright, a former MI5 officer.

Their counsel, Mr Anthony Lester, QC, said: "We will submit that what was then secret is now manifestly in the public domain."

"There is abundant evidence that the Government has authorized or acquiesced in the publication of information about the plot."

But *The Guardian* and *The Observer* were still forbidden to say anything under the present injunctions.

The application, opposed by the Attorney General and expected to last two days, continues today.

AUDIOTEXT'S CITY LINES CONTINUOUS UPDATES THROUGHOUT THE DAY. ROLLS, ROYCE, TSB, BRITAIR & BRIT GAS 0898 300 399 SHARES GUIDE 0898 300 470 INSTANT TOP 30 SHARE PRICES 0898 300 471		0898 300 400 CRICKET LINE 0898 300 402 HORSE RACING 0898 300 404 NON CARTON'S TIPS & RESULTS GREYHOUNDS 0898 300 401 FOOTBALL WHAT'S HAPPENING IN FOOTBALL Call started at 7.30 on Monday only. See off page.
FOREIGN EXCHANGE 0898 300 472 HARVARD MONEYLINE 0898 300 315 INVESTORS STOCK MARKET REPORT 0898 300 473		

'Shocking' reaction of ferry company to captains' warnings

By David Sapsstead

● Do they need an indicator to tell them whether the assistant boatswain is awake and sober... my goodness! ●

● Nice, but don't we already pay someone? ●

— Statements from senior Townsend Thoresen staff after a request for warning lights

A string of fatuous replies by Townsend Thoresen's marine department greeted a proposal less than two years ago that called for the installation of bow door indicator lights on ferries. It was disclosed yesterday at the inquiry into the Herald of Free Enterprise disaster.

Mr Justice Sheen, heading the inquiry in Church House, central London, described the reaction of the company's senior marine staff as "quite shocking".

He called for the authors of the remarks, written in reply to a memorandum from Captain Bob Blowers, senior master of the Herald's sister ship, the Pride of Free Enterprise, to be formally identified.

"I regard this as very serious indeed," Mr Justice Sheen said.

Earlier, the judge had rebuked Mr Jeffrey Develin, a director of Townsend Car Ferries and former chief marine superintendent, for lying when he said he had not considered installing warning lights on the ferry bridges until immediately after the disaster on March 6.

In fact, Captain Blowers had sent a memorandum to Mr Develin in June 1985 after the Pride had set to sea with its doors open because the assistant bosun had been asleep.

The captain wrote that bridge warning lights should be installed. At the time no action was taken. Lights were only finally installed after the Herald capsized with the loss of almost 200 lives.

Mr David Steel, QC, representing the Secretary of State for Transport, read out some of the replies submitted by Mr Develin's department in the wake of the master's memorandum.

One, allegedly from Mr John Alcorn, the deputy chief superintendent, said: "Do they need an indicator to tell them whether the deck storekeeper (assistant bosun) is awake and sober... my goodness!"

Another, from Mr Ron Ellison, superintendent for the Herald class, said: "Assume the guy who shuts the doors tells them there's a problem".

Others said: "Nice — but

doors on this class of ship", Mr Clarke said.

If they had improvements would have been made, including a system of positive reporting that the doors were shut with the adoption of a fail-safe checking and monitoring system.

Closed-circuit television was now being installed on all Townsend Thoresen ferries.

Earlier Captain Lewry completed giving evidence which had lasted five hours and 35 minutes. He said he was dismayed that he had not been told by the company of problems with the closing of doors on the Pride of Free Enterprise.

But he accepted that if he had followed standing orders to the letter and made the loading officer stay on the cargo deck until the doors were shut, the former system could have worked and the ferry's departure been delayed by less than five minutes.

He admitted that he did not know the Herald's draught on the day she capsized, nor the weight of the cargo on board.

Mr Justice Sheen said that calculations made since the disaster indicated the vessel was "very nearly overloaded".

The inquiry was also told that the captain of the Herald's sister ship, the Pride of Free Enterprise, had written to Townsend Thoresen's marine department complaining of serious and potentially dangerous overloading of their ferries.

One memorandum submitted last September by a master on the Spirit of Free Enterprise said that such overloading was a "blatant and flagrant disregard for the system". He had been told that there were fewer than 1,300 people on his vessel but after an on-board head count he found there were, in fact, 1,550, 150 more than the legal limit for both passengers and crew.

A similar tale was told by a captain on the Pride of Free Enterprise, who wrote a memorandum to Mr Develin complaining that he had been told by the shore operators that he was carrying 401 passengers when, in fact, the figure turned out to be 662.



Sergeant Stephen Rouse, a London mounted policeman, taking advice yesterday from Hound and Hound at the start of the magazine's road safety campaign (Photograph: John Rogers).

Concern over decisions

Sentencing guide for JPs

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Magistrates are being issued with the first national sentencing guidelines to improve consistency and quality in their decisions and reduce controversy on matters such as granting bail.

The guidelines, drawn up by the Judicial Studies Board which supervises the training of judges, come amid increasing concern over the way magistrates reach their decisions.

Yesterday at the annual conference in Bristol, of the 300 chief legal advisers to magistrates in England and Wales, the Judicial Studies Board, one speaker cited a recent BBC radio programme which for the first time exposed a discussion by magistrates in the retiring room.

Mr Robin Haynes, clerk to the Bromley justices, said he was concerned at the "quite muddled way in which the magistrates appeared to be making decisions in what can only be described as a 'seat of the pants' approach".

His concern was shared by some leading magistrates in the Magistrates Association, he said.

The sentencing guidelines come in the wake of a call by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, for magistrates to consider drawing up national sentencing guidance to improve consistency.

Yesterday an official from the Lord Chancellor's Department said: "It is the first time

that something of this nature has been issued centrally; it has great potential for achieving consistency of approach to decision-making throughout England and Wales."

At present there was no procedure, for example, in bail applications and as a result there was a disparity of approach to decisions, he said. A structured sentencing approach could be of great benefit.

The first guidelines, drawn up by a committee of the board under Judge Stuart-White, will be used in magistrates' courts committees for training and will also be available in JPs' retiring rooms.

Boy killed by father after fight for custody

A father shot dead his son aged 10 after losing a custody battle for the boy, an inquest was told yesterday.

Ian Lawson, aged 55, a sales representative, then turned the gun on himself after a telephone call to his daughter aged 23 and her husband.

He told his daughter, Mrs Tracey Beaumont, of Scholesmoor Road, Scholes, near Holmfirth, West Yorkshire, that he had shot his son, Thomas, four hours earlier and that he was going to lie next to him and kill himself. "There was nothing I could do to stop him. He had made up his mind", Mrs Beaumont said. Her father felt it was the only way he and Thomas could be together.

"We both said goodbye and I couldn't put the phone down because we were both crying."

The bodies of Lawson and his son were later found huddled together in a downstairs bedroom at Sireland Farm, near Dunsley, Wistal, North Yorkshire, after police broke in last February.

The boy had been shot from close range while he was asleep and his father killed himself several hours later.

He had moved to the hamlet last summer with his son after he and his wife, Maureen, split up after 22 years of marriage. Mrs Lawson had gone to live with another man in Gladhow Park Drive, Leeds, and their family home in Leeds was repossessed, the inquest was told.

Lawson had nothing to live for but his son. He had wanted custody but after several court hearings it was agreed that the boy should stay with him every other weekend and during half the holidays.

Last February he had failed to return the boy to his mother and she contacted the police and friends to find out what had happened to her son.

The coroner, Mr William Wilkinson, reached a verdict that Lawson killed himself while the balance of his mind was disturbed and that his son had died from gunshot wounds and was "unlawfully killed".

He said it had been a tragic incident and there was nothing Lawson's family could have done to help because he had made up his mind.

Portfolio Gold Winner is bound for California

A retired company director decorated by free Poland during the Second World War and a former employee of the BBC share the Portfolio Gold Prize of £4,000.

Mr Charles Hayes-Halliday, aged 64, of Pelham Cottages, The Park, Nottingham, a retired director of a property development company, is a commander of the Order of Polonia Restituta, one of the highest military awards from the democratic government in exile of Poland for services rendered as a member of the Second Air Division, 8th US Air Force.

He said the prize money would be split with his daughter, Miss Gail Hayes-Halliday, aged 29, because they play the competition together on alternate days. He said: "I struck lucky because it was my turn."

He said they would spend the money on a trip to California, where he would enjoy a holiday and he would organize a reunion of wartime comrades.

Mr Brian Lowe, aged 70, of Liebenood Road, Reading, Berkshire, a retired BBC house manager and bachelor, said he was a regular reader of The Times and played the competition with his sister.

He said: "I shall share my winning with my sister who checks the figures daily. We shall spend it on the garden greenhouse, which took a severe battering in the gales."

Readers can obtain a Portfolio Gold card by sending a stamped addressed envelope to:

Portfolio Gold,
The Times,
Blackburn,
BB1 6AJ.



Mr Charles Hayes-Halliday will share his prize.

Surrogate babies destined to second best, say doctors

By Thomson Prentice, Science Correspondent

Children born to surrogate mothers are "doomed to second best from the start" and the practice should not be supported, the British Medical Association said yesterday.

The interests of such children cannot be guaranteed and their welfare is more important than the wishes of infertile couples, the association has concluded in a new report.

Its council will recommend to its annual representatives' meeting in July that the report replaces its existing policy, which supports surrogacy in some controlled circumstances.

"However attractive the idea of assisting suitably-qualified married couples, often grievously burdened by their infertility, to obtain a child, the interests of such couples are outweighed by legitimate social considerations opposing surrogacy," the report said.

"It can never be forgotten that although infertility is a condition which can cause great distress, a child is an individual whose interests the law protects, where necessary, to the exclusion of those involved in its creation."

The association issued a warning that there were legal, social and ethical objections to surrogacy, even when it was carried out without payment.

It defined a surrogacy arrangement as one "whereby a woman agrees to bear a child for another person or persons and to surrender it at birth."

Dr John Marks, chairman of the association, said: "There is a real risk of psychological damage to someone who does not know

their origins. The child could also be involved in all sorts of legal battles."

Dr John Dawson, head of the association's board of science and education, which produced the report, said: "A malformed baby born to a surrogate mother could be rejected by the commissioning parents, while the surrogate could try to insist that they accept the child."

"The surrogate baby is doomed to second best from start by being deliberately deprived of one of its natural parents", he said.

It was not impossible that some women would commission a surrogate mother "simply to avoid the discomfort and inconvenience of a pregnancy", the report said.

Examples might include that of a ballerina anxious to avoid the threat to her career posed by childbirth.

As most surrogate agreements involved payment, and commissioning parents were usually better off than the surrogate mother, "this raises the question of commercial exploitation in circumstances of economic recession".

Commercial surrogate agencies are banned by law in Britain. Non-profit arrangements can take place, although they are not legally enforceable.

Doctors cannot refuse to treat a pregnant surrogate, but the report emphasized that by giving assistance they could expose themselves to legal liability.

The association called on the Government to set up a statutory licensing authority to control in vitro fertilization clinics and research centres.

Stinging in the rain brought by freak pollution

By Craig Seton

The riddle of the Mystery Midlands Smog was partially solved yesterday, 24 hours after an eye-stinging blue cloud first descended on the Leicestershire village of Wymeswold.

After Wymeswold, a community of 2,000 bewildered citizens, the smog spread across 45 miles of Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire, stretching from ground level to 4,000ft, with a police helicopter in hot pursuit.

Radio stations broadcast reports of its approach to 200,000 listeners, some people

went indoors and shut their windows and other reported stinging eyes and sore throats.

Police stations were flooded with calls from anxious householders who wanted to know if it was poisonous.

While government agencies tried to find the source, everybody was agreed yesterday that it was in Wymeswold that it first appeared, at about 11.30am on Wednesday, out the bright sunshine and blue sky.

Mr Ivor Harwood, landlord of the Three Crows, where the smog was the sole topic of conversation yesterday, said: "It came in like a sea mist, but

you could taste the sulphur."

"My wife, Dorothy, went out to get the washing in because she thought someone had a bonfire, but it made her eyes sore and skin blotchy."

"After about four hours it disappeared. I reckon it was acid rain from the power stations. The nearest one is only five miles away."

Yesterday the finger of suspicion for the Wymeswold smog pointed at the nearest likely source, acid rain pollution caused by sulphur dioxide emissions from the Trent Valley power stations in Nottinghamshire.

The Health and Safety

Executive said it was not carrying out an inquiry and suggested that the new industrial air pollution inspectorate at the Department of the Environment could provide an answer.

However, the DoE passed inquiries to the Central Electricity Generating Board. Yesterday, the CEB's own scientific analysis of the smog appeared largely to exclude it from sole blame.

It described the smog as a photochemical aerosol haze, brought about by the freak, warm, calm weather conditions and general atmospheric pollution.

Piggott committed for trial on alleged tax fraud of £4m

Lester Piggott, the former jockey, was committed by Newmarket magistrates yesterday for trial at the Central Criminal Court on charges of defrauding the Inland Revenue.

Mr Piggott faces 12 charges involving a total of nearly £4 million.

He was released on bail after securing two sureties of £100,000 each.

Mr Charles St George, a racehorse owner, was in court to act as one of the sureties but Mr Henry Cecil, the racehorse trainer who had pledged the other bond, had to report to a police station at Chester where he was attending a race meeting.

Mr Piggott, who is now in his second season as a trainer, was kept at a Newmarket police station until the bail was secured.

Newmarket magistrates agreed to release £250,000 held by the court on the condition that Mr Piggott paid it to the Inland Revenue.

Mr Piggott was committed on 11 charges of defrauding the Inland Revenue of a total of £3,750,877.

Six of the charges related to providing false accounts for his company, three of providing false tax returns, one of making a false statement of assets and one of providing a false certificate of disclosure.

He was also charged jointly with L K Piggott Ltd, his company of defrauding Her Majesty the Queen and the Commissioners of Customs and Excise of £184,500 in Value Added Tax.

The charges alleged that he had failed to declare payments received for riding retainers, prize fees, shares in racing-winning colts and bloodstock transactions.

Mr Julian Bevan, Mr Piggott's counsel, said he made the application for the case to be tried at the Central Criminal Court because all the parties and all the papers were in London.



Lester Piggott: 12 charges.

BBC stages royal coup for its summer line-up

By Jonathan Miller, Media Correspondent

The BBC scored a royal coup yesterday in its quest to form links with independent programme suppliers, signing up Prince Edward as the producer of a special charity edition of *It's a Knockout*.

The programme, to be recorded at Alton Towers in Staffordshire on June 15, will feature four celebrity teams, each representing a charity and each led by a member of the Royal Family. Prince Edward will lead one of the teams. The others will be led by Princess Anne and the Duke and Duchess of York.

Mr Michael Grade, director of programmes, said yesterday that the Prince had not received any fee. He said the Prince had conceived the idea for the programme, and is playing a key organizational role in arranging the event. No transmission date has been scheduled.

The royal contest is among nearly 500 hours of programmes, costing £50 million, announced yesterday for the BBC's summer schedule. The

package includes 35 series and 15 first-run plays.

The highlights include three new drama series: *Boogie Outlaws*, a saga of the rock music industry starring Ian Hogg, *Little's Pictures*, with Lisa Harrow as a photographer resuming her career, and a 10-part crime series, *Star Cops*, in which Nathan Spring plays the head of a galactic police force.

Maximilian Schell will star in *Peter the Great*, a four-part mini-series to be transmitted from late July. Filmed largely in Russia, it also features Vanessa Redgrave and Laurence Olivier.

A new season of *Theatre Night* starts on May 17 with George Bernard Shaw's *The Devil's Disciple*. Joe Orton's comedy, *What the Butler Saw*, will be shown on May 24.

A Dennis Potter retrospective of eight television plays starts on June 2. Potter's six-part dramatization of F. Scott Fitzgerald's *Tender is the Night* also begins in June.

A twerp by any other name

By Philip Howard

Twerp has joined the eclectic and surprising register of unparliamentary expressions. During questions to the Secretary of State for the Environment on Wednesday, the Speaker ruled: "I find the word twerp an inelegant parliamentary expression." This came as a surprise to those from the fonder-mouthed North, who have always regarded twerp as one of the more affectionate vocatives.

Twerp, or twirp, or more accurately twerp, is an epon-

ymous word derived from T W Earp, of Exeter College, Oxford, who matriculated in 1911. Earp gave the word to the English language because of the wrath he kindled in the rugger-playing hearties at Oxford, when he was president of the union, by being the last and wittiest of the decadents.

J R R Tolkien wrote: "He lived in Oxford when we lived in Pusey Street (rooming with Walton, the composer, and going about with T W Earp, the original twerp)."

A twerp is a despicable or objectionable person; an insignificant person; a nobody; a nincompoop. It is a dated word of the 1930s.

Erskine May rules as unparliamentary the imputation of false or unwarranted motives; the misrepresentation of the language of another, and the accusation of misrepresentation; charges of uttering a deliberate falsehood; and abusive and insulting language of a nature likely to create disorder.

Lamb prices start their summer fall

Home-produced lamb prices are beginning their seasonal fall and should drop considerably further during the summer.

Whole leg is down a penny or two to £2.16, fillet end £2.23 and shoulder £1.33 a lb, but New Zealand frozen cuts are still markedly cheaper with leg at £1.47 and shoulder 84p a lb.

Pork prices are also slightly down to an average of £1.04 a lb for whole leg and £1.28 for fillet end.

Fish supplies are back to normal after the holiday week-end and some species are slightly cheaper, including codling down to an average of £1.73 a lb, whiting £1.47, mackerel 71p, lemon sole £2.41 and Dover sole £3.84, although regional variations are as always considerable.

The salad season is here again, but the range of ingredients is limited. There are lots of good cucumbers at 35-65p each, depending on size.

spring onions 18-30p a bunch, and celery 40-65p a head. But hot-house tomatoes are expensive at 65-90p a lb. Lettuces at 30-45p for the round variety and up to £1 each for icebergs are almost in the luxury class.

The first English asparagus is appearing in the shops at £1.40 to £1.90 a lb, but will be more plentiful in one or two weeks time.

There is a much wider choice of fruit generally than

last month, with excellent southern hemisphere cox's, golden delicious and Granny Smith apples at 35-50p a lb, bananas 38-54p, grapefruit 10-25p each, oranges 8-22p, lemons 8-20p and pineapples 70p to £1.75 depending on size.

Special offers this week include Tesco spare ribs chops (good for barbecues) 94p a lb and stewing steak £1.18; Sainsbury lean mince £1.18 and rib roast £1.58 a lb; Tesco leg of pork 99p.

Anti-pollution cruise

Stockholm (AP) — Greenpeace, the international environmentalist group, has begun a two-month pollution-hunting cruise around Sweden's coast.

The Greenpeace ship *Beluga* (white whale), a former German firefighter converted into a floating laboratory, set out from Malmö in southern Sweden this week to patrol the coasts for poisonous industrial emissions.

Thatcher defends Tory record on pensioners

Pensioners' incomes had risen twice as quickly under this Government as they had during the 1970s — and the Government's social security record was excellent, Mrs Margaret Thatcher said, to loud Conservative cheers and Labour protests, during Prime Minister's questions.

She also clashed three times with Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, over the level of supplementary benefits and the effect of poverty on children.

The exchanges came after Mr Michael Colvin (Romey and Watford, C) drew attention to a study by the Department of Health and Social Security, published in the May issue of the *Employment Gazette*.

He said that it confirmed the increases in pensioners' incomes. Pensioners were not only spending more, but saving more than ever before (Conservative cheers).

Mrs Thatcher replied that the Government had honoured its pledges to pensioners — (Labour

cries of Rubbish!) — about the basic pension, even though there were a million more now than there had been in 1979.

The *Employment Gazette* article showed that the net income of pensioners as a group — (Labour protests) — had gone up by far more than for the population as a whole.

It meant that more people were retiring with an occupational pension.

"I commend the article to the House," Mr Kinnock asserted that it was fascinating that those increases included Serps (the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme) which the Prime Minister was intent upon abolishing (Conservative protests).

Another report today showed that four million children lived in deep poverty. They were more subject to illness, early death and low achievement than were children of comparable age who were not in poor families.

The total now was nearly double what it had been in 1979. "Doesn't that record fill her with shame?" (Labour cry of She has no shame).

Mrs Thatcher rebuked the Opposition leader for claiming that the Government wanted to

abolish Serps. He knew full well that was not so.

Mr Kinnock was saying that the higher one defined supplementary benefit, the more people were in poverty.

The report's figures referred not only to supplementary benefit but also to incomes that were 140 per cent of benefit — £167 a week. That was not poverty, Mr Kinnock wanted to know if the Prime Minister's selective view of statistics — (loud Conservative protests) — meant she was going to go on avoiding the truth about the immense spread of child poverty.

Ten pounds a week provided for young children under DHSS regulations was nothing like enough to bring them up. All the evidence showed that £35 a week would be a bare minimum.

The Government's record was one of unmitigated shame, Mrs Thatcher repeated that the report referred to a definition of poverty of 140 per cent of supplementary benefit.

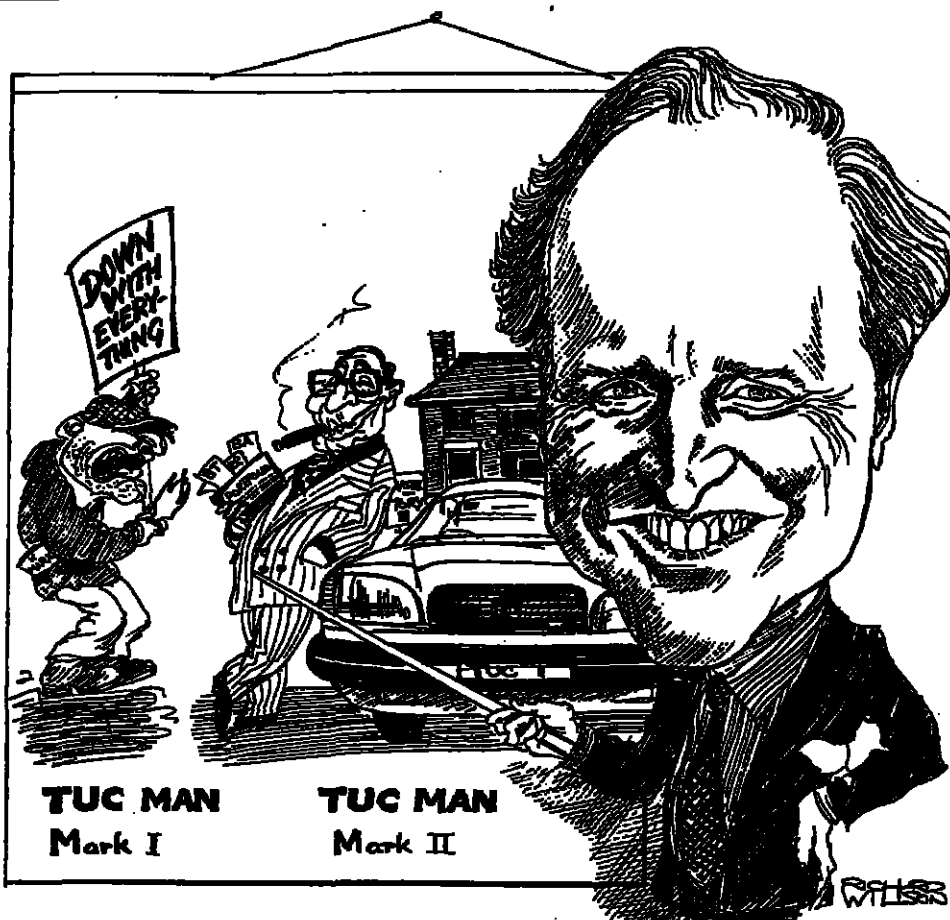
"When a similar report was first published, even *The Guardian* newspaper described it as running counter to common sense (Conservative cheers).

"I'm sorry, the article I referred to was in *New Society* (Labour laughter). *The Guardian* merely described it as perverse (loud Conservative laughter). "I could not have chosen a better word myself."

Mr Kinnock said that even if Mrs Thatcher took her own Government figures about children on the bare rate of supplementary benefit, many more children in this country were receiving it now.

Mrs Thatcher said that Mr Kinnock was saying that if the Government had not put up the benefit rate as much as it had, there would be fewer people in poverty.

That was ridiculous.



Increase in Neighbourhood Watch schemes 'amazing'

The recent growth in the number of Neighbourhood Watch schemes was amazing and encouraging, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, said when announcing Government plans for a new national crime-prevention campaign with an enhanced publicity budget later this year.

He said that provision had been made to sustain this new campaign over the next two years and the emphasis would be on showing how all those concerned about rising crime could make their own contribution to preventing it.

He was replying to Mr Colin Shepherd (Hemel Hempstead, C), who

said that 96 per cent of crime involved property and 25 per cent cars. It was essential for the public to be involved in the protection of their own property.

In the new campaign attention should be paid to specific schemes such as Neighbourhood Watch, which had a very good record of success. Would Mr Hurd promote these schemes further?

Mr Hurd: Yes, we shall certainly do that. The latest figure for the total number of Neighbourhood Watch schemes in England and Wales is 29,500 and that is amazing and encouraging. Three years ago there

were only about 1,000, so there has been a real outburst of energy by the citizens in collaboration with the police and we warmly welcome it.

Mr John Wheeler (Westminster North, C) said that he welcomed the Home Secretary's news, adding that there were about 7,000 Neighbourhood Watch schemes in the Metropolitan Police area alone.

MPs were told of what at least one of their number thought was a new crime, a new word and an abuse of the English language all rolled into one: autocrime.

The apparent neologism came from Mr David Mellor, Minister

Unions and the Tory voters

More power given to rank-and-file trade unionists by the present Government's legislation, and a 21 per cent increase in take-home pay, were among the Prime Minister's suggested reasons why most trade unionists do not vote Labour.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher had been told during question time by Mr Winston Churchill (left) (Davyhulme, C) that the Government's proposal to give additional rights to trade union members had been widely welcomed by ordinary trade unionists.

"According to Mr Larry Whitty, the Labour Party Secretary, the majority of rank-and-file trade unionists no longer vote Labour. Is it any wonder the Labour Party is determined to scrap Mrs Thatcher's policies in this field?"

Mrs Thatcher agreed, and said that she hoped that an increase in number of trade unionists would vote Conservative "and more and more will".

Call for Thatcher apology to Scots

Mrs Thatcher should use the opportunity of her visit to the Conservative conference at Perth next week to apologise to the Scottish people for the increase in unemployment there by 2,300 each month since she came to office, Mr Thomas Clarke (Monklands West, Lab) said during Prime Minister's questions.

He added that she should apologise "not least for the insensitivity and insensitivity of the present Secretary of State for Scotland (Mr Malcolm Rifkind)". He complained that Mr Rifkind had refused to meet him about factory closures in his constituency.

Mrs Thatcher: Mr Rifkind does an excellent job, as did his predecessor (Mr George Younger).

When Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, was asked during business questions to prevent a clash next Wednesday between Scottish business in the House and the opening of the Scottish Conservative Party conference, he replied: I have often thought that if Parliament could be sitting during the Conservative Party conference it would be a useful excuse to be here and not there.

Hurd urged to drop clause

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, was urged by Mr Ivan Lawrence (Barton, C) during Commons question time to drop a particular clause from the Criminal Justice Bill.

The clause in question would empower the Attorney General, where he considered that a sentence passed by the Crown Court raised a question of public importance, to refer the case to the Court of Appeal for an opinion on the principles to be observed in sentencing similar cases in the future.

Mr Lawrence said that the clause was "by common consent of Bar and Bench manifestly absurd".

Mr Hurd said that the clause had been criticized with equal force, in the House of Lords and elsewhere, by those who thought it did not go far enough and by those who thought it went too far. "I think we had better see how we get on next week."

Move soon on Airbus aid

The Government's discussions with British Aerospace about launch aid for the A330 and A340 Airbus had reached an advanced stage and the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry (Mr Paul Cunniff) hoped to make an announcement to the House soon, Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, said during business questions.

He was responding to Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition, who repeated his request for a debate on lunch aid and a statement from Mr Cunniff about the appropriate aid to enable British Aerospace to participate in this project. Even a pre-electoral statement would be preferable to further sloddlid delay, he said.

Spring break

Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, told MPs that the Commons would rise for the spring break on Friday May 22 and return on Tuesday June 2. The Lords are due to rise on May 21 and return on June 1. If an election is called for early June, Parliament would be dissolved before May 22.

Zircon report is with the DPP

The report by the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police on the Zircon spy satellite affair had now been received by the Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, told Mr Tam Dalyell (Linlithgow, Lab) during Commons questions.

Mr Hurd rejected the MP's suggestion that he should call for a report from the Commissioner on the progress of his investigations into the affair and said that the Commissioner, on this matter, reported directly to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Mr Dalyell said that it was now 13 weeks and four days since the

executive and staff of the BBC were "unconsciously hailed out of their beds at 5am on a February Sabbath morning".

Of course there were no "leaks" for the police to get hold of for the simple reason that there were no leaks. Had not Duncan Campbell put the programme together out of published information and then had it confirmed "by those from the stratosphere of Whitehall such as Sir Ronald Mason and Sir Frank Cooper?"

It was time to stop this waste of police time for the Government to admit its folly.

Parliament next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be: Monday: Debate on private member's motion on the quality of life in the United Kingdom. Debate on the Government's decision on the Sizewell B power station.

Tuesday: Dartford-Thurrock Crossing Bill, second reading; London Regional Transport Bill, report stage.

Wednesday: Abolition of Domestic Rates Etc (Scotland) Bill, Lords amendments; Motion on Lord Chancellor's salary order.

Thursday: Local Government Bill, remaining stages.

Friday: Debate on small firms. The main business in the House of Lords will be: Monday: Abolition of Domestic Rates Etc (Scotland) Bill, third reading; Debate on horse-racing on Sundays.

Tuesday: Criminal Justice Bill, committee, first day.

Wednesday: Debates on European Year of the Environment and on problems created by privatization without competition.

Thursday: Immigration (Carriers' Liability) Bill, report; Criminal Justice Bill, committee, second day.

Parliament today Commons (9.30): Private members' Bills: Licensing (Amendment) Bill, report; Local Government Bill, committee; Hearing Aid Council Act 1968 (Amendment) Bill, second reading; and Tobacco Smoking (Public Places) Bill, second reading.

Lords (11): Northern Ireland (Emergency Provisions) Bill, second reading.

As Mrs Thatcher prepares to make the most fateful choice of her political career, she must be aware that whenever the election comes the Conservatives will go into it with one enormous advantage and one particular handicap.

The advantage is that more than either of their rivals they offer the prospect of strong government. Very few people can imagine that a vote for the Alliance would bring an Alliance government to office. Even if the Alliance did come to power, there could be no certainty what kind of government it would make at this stage in its history.

The more realistic prospect that the Alliance offers is either a hung Parliament or more influential opposition. A case can be made for both of these outcomes, but not to those who believe that what this country needs above everything else is another period of strong rule.

Nobody can be sure what would happen in a hung Parliament. Perhaps there would be a coalition, or maybe a minority government. Possibly there would soon be another election, or a parliamentary deal could enable whatever administration was formed to hold on for some years. The essence of a hung Parliament is that it leaves everything to be played for by the politicians.

I have argued on a number of occasions that the best outcome for which the Alliance could reasonably hope is to strengthen its position, perhaps even to win more votes than Labour, without holding the balance of power. But that would give it a springboard for the election



Geoffrey Smith

after this, not a governmental role in the next Parliament.

If anybody other than the Conservatives is to win an overall majority it will surely be Labour. But there would still be uncertainty as to what kind of government there would then be. This is not just because Mr Kinnock lacks experience of office and Labour has been eight years in opposition.

What compromises would be forced upon him by his own left wing? What would be the international consequences of Labour unexpectedly coming to power?

None of these questions arises about a third Thatcher term. There are many people in this country who either admire her enormously or hate her intensely. There are few who remain in doubt about her.

She projects above all an impression of certainty and strength. Even her critics tend to admit that they know where she stands.

That is a particular advantage in this country because it aids with the national political culture. Whether or not Disraeli was right that "England does not love coalitions", it is certainly not used to them.

The electoral system leads to a natural expectation that governments are elected with the power to implement their policies. It helps if they know what these are.

This aura of strength is Mrs Thatcher's greatest single asset. Her handicap is that she needs an overall majority more than either of her rivals. She would have more to fear from a hung Parliament than they would.

There can be no assurance that she could do a deal with the Alliance, or even that she would wish to try. Yet her chances of forming a minority government without a negotiated agreement would be bleak.

A hung Parliament might, as I suspect, be something of a trap for the Alliance. But it would at least represent a considerable increase in its potential power and would be widely interpreted as a victory.

For Labour it would be a considerable improvement on its present position. The party would stand a better chance than any other of forming a minority government. If it could then hold its left wing in check for a few months it could look forward with more confidence to another election than it can to this one.

For Mrs Thatcher, though, a hung Parliament would unquestionably be a defeat. So she has to go for broke now. Nothing else will do for her.

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Social spurn the b

Gentleman

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WORLD PEAC

Social services 'were spurned over Kim the branded girl'

Social services repeatedly tried to contact the mother and stepfather of Kim, the girl aged four, who was battered, branded and burnt before she died. The Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

The court was told that a letter from Greenwich social services offering assistance was sent to Nigel Hall and Pauline Carlisle within days of the child returning to them from foster parents.

But the offer was angrily rejected by Mr Hall in October 1985. Mrs Beryl Fitzgerald, a social worker, said:

"He said: 'He said they had received the letter from us, but did not want anything to do with the social services. I had the impression he was quite angry that a letter had been sent. He refused to come into our building and refused to see the duty officer.'

The following March, three months before Kim died, an anonymous call was made to the local social services office about the family and an investigation was started.

Mrs Carlisle, aged 27, and Mr Hall, aged 24, of Ferrier estate, Kidbrooke, south-east London, deny murdering Kim on June 8 last year.

They also deny charges of cruelty and inflicting grievous bodily harm, and wounding and assaulting her between October 3, 1985 and June 8 last year.

Mrs Olive Swinburne, a social worker, told the court that when she started making checks on the child, she rang the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, but it knew nothing about the family.

She telephoned the education welfare officer and checked with Mrs Reader, the health worker.

"I asked Mrs Reader to do a joint visit with me to the



Mrs Swinburne yesterday.

"I asked to see Kim" home. She refused to go on a joint visit. I discussed it with my duty senior for the day and we decided to do a joint visit together."

She named the senior as Marilyn Streeter. "The family had no warning we were going. We got there about 5pm."

She said Mrs Carlisle and Mr Hall were there with the two older children, who were fit and well. But she did not see Kim or the baby although she asked at least three times during the 30-minute visit.

Mrs Swinburne said they had been given the name of Kim. "We asked to see the two younger children. They said they were both in bed asleep as they had been out shopping in the afternoon and both children were very tired when they got back."

"We did not see either of the younger children. Although we were persistent for half an hour, they refused each time we asked."

"We told them we had to follow up every phone call and there had been an anonymous caller reporting that there had been a young child crying."

Mrs Swinburne said Mrs Carlisle had done more talking than Mr Hall.

"They said they did not want to disturb the children.

We asked them which child it was likely to be - that the girl referred to. Carlisle said they had a very cross baby, but Kim was no trouble."

"I asked if I could see the two quickly in bed, but Carlisle refused. She wanted us to leave."

"I told her someone must see the children and she agreed to take them to the clinic three days later. She said the court welfare officer had visited her and that she had been to the clinic three weeks before."

Mrs Swinburne said the office was closed and she could not check the information then, but passed it on.

"Mrs Carlisle said she did not like social workers and wanted a new life without social workers."

Miss Streeter, a Greenwich social services team manager, told the court she and Mrs Swinburne received "flat refusals" each time they asked to see the two younger children.

"We were very persistent - asking about four or five times."

Asked by Mr Roy Amlot, for the prosecution, whether they were entitled to insist on seeing the children, Miss Streeter replied: "No."

Mr Hall made an agitated telephone call to Greenwich social services after receiving a letter from them threatening police action unless he showed the two younger children to them. Miss Doreen Armstrong, another social worker, told the court.

Miss Armstrong said: "He was agitated and asked me about the contents of the letter he had received written by Martin Ruddock. He wanted to know if it was possible for the police to intervene. I said it was true."

The hearing continues

Civil Servants draw the line at Downing Street



Civil servants picketing Downing Street in pursuit of a pay claim yesterday included (left to right) Mr Michael Growcott, Mr James Ayres and Mr John MacPhail. Mr Growcott and Mr MacPhail, second secretaries, earn £13,000; Mr Ayres, a senior executive officer, £16,000 (Photograph: Graham Wood).

Company directors

How industry is being failed by men at the top who have had no training

By John Spicer

Thousands of directors in companies ranging from one-man businesses to multi-nationals have little or no expertise in handling increasing economic, social and legal pressures.

Many find themselves promoted on to a board as a reward for past services, and because they have no training, fail to perform as effectively as they should.

These are the views of the Institute of Directors, which estimates there are 450,000 company directors at all levels in Britain, and come after recent similar criticisms.

Last month Lord Young of Graffham, Secretary of State for Employment, speaking at the twenty-fifth anniversary conference of the National Economic Development Council, called on leading companies to start a crusade for professionalism and enterprise at all levels of management.

And a recent report for NEDC, the Manpower Services Commission and the British Institute of Management said Britain's business chiefs were amateurs compared with those in the United States, West Germany, Japan and France.

In response, the Institute of

Directors is asking its 34,000 members how they think the problem should be tackled.

Questions being circulated include: looking back on your first board appointment, do you feel that you would have benefited from having more formal training for the role of director? Should directors have formal qualifications and how should such qualifications be validated?

The institute says that a career in management or as an entrepreneur can be a partial preparation only for an individual to undertake the office of director, although such experience is important for success. The institute is

particularly concerned with recent legislation, notably the 1986 Insolvency Act, which says that a company director may become personally responsible and liable to punishment if his company commits an offence.

It is asking its members to return its questionnaire by June 5. After that it is likely that the institute will start a more comprehensive system of training courses.

Government figures show that only 20 per cent of senior company executives have degrees or professional qualifications compared with 63 per cent in West Germany and 85 per cent in the US.

Check on the young gambling addicts

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

A survey of 2,000 young people to see how many are addicted to gambling in amusement arcades is being carried out for the Home Office.

Ministers have faced growing pressure for action, including a change in the law. The Museum, Arcade Action Group wants a ban on people under 16 from arcades, to curb what it sees as serious social mischief. Its nationwide membership includes more than 20 London boroughs and a number of city and district councils.

But the British Amusement Catering Trades Association operates a voluntary code that children under 16 should be accompanied by adults in arcades.

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, wants the research to be completed by early next year. It is being carried out by the Home Office Research and Planning Unit. As part of the first stage, a survey by a market research company of 2,000 young people, aged 10-15, chosen at random, will seek to find out the proportion of those playing amusement machines regularly, how many are addicted, and whether there are signs that addiction leads to criminal and anti-social behaviour.

Towards the autumn, a series of in-depth interviews will be carried out among children who are amusement arcade regulars, to examine any addiction trends and effects more deeply. The Home Office does not yet know who will do that stage of the research.

Gaming Board inspectors who do not normally go to arcades will be making visits to them during the next six months.

As part of the research, Home Office officials will be asking senior police officers once again, if they feel there is a need to change the law.

The Home Office expects to keep the cost of the research within £20,000.

A spokesman for Gamblers' Anonymous said in December that Exeter University research showed that 80 per cent of two school classes of children aged 14 were playing machines. The average age for starting to play was nine.

Parents worried about children who are cheating and stealing in order to gamble were reported to be planning to increase the number of groups set up for mutual support.

Mother takes fight to Lords

Mrs Doreen Hill, aged 52, a widow, of Leathorn Crescent, Ormesby, Cleveland, the mother of the Yorkshire Ripper Peter Sutcliffe's thirteenth and last victim, has taken her fight to sue police for alleged negligence to the House of Lords after the Court of Appeal rejected her case in February.

She claims that West Yorkshire police could have arrested Sutcliffe earlier and prevented the murder of her daughter, Jacqueline, aged 20, a Leeds University student.

'Gentleman' rapist is jailed

A man who twice raped, drugged and then robbed an American student on Salisbury Plain, was jailed for a total of 10 years yesterday.

The jury at Winchester Crown Court took 90 minutes to find Philip Horwood, aged 30, guilty at the end of his week-long trial.

Horwood picked up the girl, aged 19, who was hitch-hiking alone, in Northamptonshire in August last year, promising to drive her to Exeter.

He took her for a coffee, a sightseeing tour of Oxford, a swim in the river, a meal in a roadside cafe and a night visit to Salisbury.

"He was the perfect gentleman", the girl told the court. That was until he stopped the car on a track near the village of Porton.

First he raped her as they walked down a deserted track. Then back in the car, he gave her pain-killing capsules and injected her with a pain-killing drug so that she became drowsy and lost control.

He then raped her again, put her in a sleeping bag and dumped her behind a hedge.

Horwood told the jury he had sexual intercourse with the girl three times.

"She had no complaints", he said. It was only when she

went berserk and shouted, "you raped me," that he drugged her to keep her quiet.

At the time of the offences, Horwood was on the run. He was wanted by magistrates at Oldham in Lancashire, and by Knightsbridge Crown Court in London.

Yesterday Mr Justice Mann sentenced him to eight years for each rape, six years for each of the two drug offences and six months for theft, all concurrent. He then added two consecutive years for the burglary of a house in Northamptonshire and two other theft offences which Horwood admitted.

Crackdown on charities used for tax evasion

By Our Home Affairs Correspondent

Charities used for tax evasion face a crackdown by the Charity Commissioners and the Inland Revenue.

The Charity Commissioners' annual report, published yesterday, disclosed growing opportunity for abuse. It highlights the ease with which professional fund raisers, including known criminals, can establish charities which will pay them excessive remuneration.

The Inland Revenue is to tackle evasion and, for the first time, pass on information

to the commissioners, which will tackle the misuse of charities and their funds.

The commissioners have a new central liaison unit in Liverpool and an Inland Revenue official will work with it.

Where there has been maladministration the commissioners are able to freeze bank accounts and charity transactions.

Report of the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales for the year 1986 (Stationery Office, £5).

Remedial units sought for difficult prisoners

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The prison service should set up four or five special units to handle long-term inmates who are difficult to control, a report said yesterday.

The units' total capacity need not initially exceed 100 places according to the report of the Research and Advisory Group on the Long Term Prison System.

The units should not be punitive in purpose, it says. Conditions in them should resemble those in normal long-term prisons.

The report approves the

proposals for the first three units at Parkhurst, Lincoln and Hull prisons.

In a foreword to the report Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said that in publishing it the Government did not seek to present the group's thoughts as the final word on the subject. "Rather we hope that the report will encourage further informed discussion of a hitherto somewhat neglected area."

Special Units for Long-Term Prisoners: Regimes, Management and Research (Stationery Office, £4).

De Kooning and Hockney prove popular in US

By Huon Mallalieu

In New York on Wednesday the popularity of a Willem de Kooning was reaffirmed in the second part of Christie's sale of contemporary art when a comparatively slight graphic drawing, "Five Women", sold for \$154,000 or £90,588 (estimate \$40,000 to \$50,000). The sale produced consistently high prices, many paid by American collectors, and a total of \$2,607,880 (£1,534,047) with only 3 per cent bought in.

Also in New York on Wednesday, Sotheby's was selling photographs, including a number by David Hockney which proved very popular. His photocollage of Kodachrome prints, "The Brooklyn Bridge", assembled in 1982, sold to a New York dealer for \$38,500 or £22,647 (estimate \$15,000 to \$20,000). A series of volumes of photographs and descriptions of the Indians of North America by Edward Curtis, taken in the early 1900s, sold to a collector for \$48,400 or £28,471.

In London on Wednesday afternoon, Sotheby's held the first session of a two-day book sale. An album containing prints of French and Swiss costume and scenery, dating from between about 1790 to 1820, went to the dealer L'Aquaforte at £1,980 (estimate £250 to £350), presumably on the strength of the Swiss material.

A Christmas card drawn by Ronald Searle when a prisoner of war in Changi jail in 1944 went to the dealer, Beetles, for £220 (estimate £200 to £250).

In London yesterday, a furniture sale at Christie's produced £349,239, with 12 per cent bought in. A handsome set of 10 George III mahogany dining chairs with restrained vertical-bar splats reached an equally handsome £12,100 (estimate £6,000 to £8,000). A more elaborate set of 14, with pierced wheel splats, sold for only £9,350 (estimate £4,000 to £6,000). However, only three of these were stated to be late eighteenth century, the remainder being later George III-style replacements.

An exuberant early Victorian centre table in the Gothic taste, with a rosewood tripod pedestal, carved with trefoils, and a colourful circular Italian marble top, made £11,550 (estimate £6,000 to £8,000).

A small step for womankind was made yesterday afternoon when Caroline Blyth took part of a sale of Oriental ceramics at Christie's South Kensington. This was a first for Christie's in London, although Bonhams first had a woman auctioneer some 40 years ago, and Sotheby's about 10 years ago.

Failed franchise chief is back in the business

By Robin Young

Creditors of Postal Centres International, which went into liquidation in March last year with a deficiency of £1,165,972, are angry to have learnt that the company's former chairman and managing director, Mr Kenneth Taylor, is about to launch a new franchise business in Britain.

Mr Taylor, a former car dealer, is in London for meetings with bankers and brokers and is hoping to raise between £5 million and £8 million to launch a chain of video supermarkets called West Coast Video.

His plan is to open 30 to 40 stores modelled on an American retail chain of the same name with which he has a franchise agreement, and then

to sell further franchises to operators willing to put up between £150,000 and £200,000 to lease, fit and stock their own stores.

He has announced a press trip to the United States later this month to see the West Coast Video supermarkets in operation and an official launching party for the British operation is scheduled for June 23 at the American Embassy in Grosvenor Square.

Former business associates of Mr Taylor claim that his extravagant lifestyle contributed to the demise of Postal Centres International, a franchise operation which sold stamp-selling machines into retail shops.

The official receiver's report blames the company's failure

on "mismanagement by the directors in that they failed to ensure the provision of adequate permanent and working capital, and failed to restrict overhead expenses, including the cost of developing overseas markets, within the limits of the company's earnings and capital resources."

At Christmas 1985 Mr Taylor took a party of nearly 30 to Hawaii on an expenses paid trip which he describes as an incentive travel scheme. Others say it was a reckless last fling when he knew of his company's trading difficulties.

Mr Taylor blames the failure of his company on the National Westminster Bank's refusal to renew an overdraft facility, which prevented him receiving a £300,000 government grant to market the

Postal Centres concept abroad.

"Last year was the worst thing that has ever happened in my life," Mr Taylor said at the Royal Garden Hotel, Kensington, which he was using as headquarters for his fund-raising exercise.

"The only reason that I have not stood up to be counted is that my lawyers advised me it was not the right time, and that it should all come out in court in about 18 months' time."

Most of his creditors, though, have given up hope of receiving anything from the winding-up of the company's affairs.

One, Mrs Irene Bannister, whose husband, Roger, bought a Cheshire and Merseyside franchise in Postal Services

international for £17,500, said: "We had to remortgage our house and my husband had to find another job to pay off our debts."

Mr John Barry, the franchising vice-president of West Coast Video in Philadelphia, said yesterday that the company knew about Mr Taylor's past business. "We have the fullest faith and confidence in Mr Taylor," "Anyone who has been as long in the franchising world as I have realizes that a few disgruntled franchise holders are almost inevitable."

He added that West Coast Video, with 50 company stores and 150 franchised outlets in 16 states is America's fastest growing video franchise chain, and so far has not had a single franchisee go out of business.

Rare cats that behave as if they were dogs

By Mark Ellis

Smoky, a rare Maine Coon cat, has origins as hazy as his name: is the species a hybrid between a cat and a raccoon or a cat and a lynx?

The history of the Maine Coon cat, a pet growing in popularity in the United States, is shrouded in myth.

For Mrs Anita Rowsell, of Place Farm, Fittle, near Lewes, East Sussex, a shopping trip means taking Smoky for a ride on her shoulders.

The cats, from New England, behave like dogs, and like water, some to the extent of sitting in sinks waiting for mice to emerge from the plughole.

Their tails are sometimes as

long as their bodies, which have thick downy fur on the underside and long hairs like plumes on top.

Many tales surround them. Some say they were brought to America by the Vikings 400 years before Christopher Columbus, and an even more romantic story holds that they were descendants of the cats beloved of Marie Antoinette, which were shipped to the United States with her belongings to fend for themselves after her execution.

Maine Coons were the first show cats in the United States, and as early as the 1860s exhibitions were held in Maine.



Mrs Anita Rowsell taking Smoky shopping yesterday (Photograph: Harry Kerr).

£65m private cash breakthrough to build rented homes

By Christopher Warman Property Correspondent

North Housing, the largest housing association in England and Wales, yesterday launched a £65 million private loan package to be raised in the City of London to fund the building of 2,000 houses for rent.

It is the first scheme of its

kind, according to the brokers, James Capel and Co. It was worked out in the past few months with support from the Department of the Environment, and represents a further attempt by the Government to encourage the rented housing sector.

This breakthrough in the funding of housing-association building, which until

recently used only public money, is intended to lead to a total package of £100 million which will enable a further 1,000 houses to be built.

Mr John Patten, minister responsible for housing, who attended the launch in the City, said: "I believe that in the next three or four years many tens of thousands of homes will be provided by

joint public and private funding for people who want to rent."

Under the scheme, building land is being acquired by the association from 14 local authorities throughout the country in return for nomination rights to half the homes built in their areas. North Housing will provide housing to be let on the basis of assured

tenancies, which are not subject to rent control.

Mr John Sutcliffe, chairman of the association, said: "The immediate effects of the issue are that people will have rented housing, workers in the construction industry will have jobs and job seekers will have affordable accommodation where there is work."

The housing authorities

which have entered into agreement of all political colours. They are Allerdale, Blyth Valley, Darlington, Derby, Durham, East Staffordshire, Epping Forest, Harlow, Haringey, Milton Keynes Development Corporation, Peterborough Development Corporation, Reading, London borough of Sutton, and South Tyneside.

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Iran-Contra hearings

Secord faces barrage of questions on arms profits

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The third day of the Iran-Contra hearings on Capitol Hill in the Senate turned sour yesterday in sharp exchanges between retired Major-General Richard Secord and a leading trial lawyer. "I did not come here to be badgered," the former war pilot snapped.

Mr Arthur Liman, who is acting as chief counsel for the Senate investigating committee, fired a barrage of questions about profits generated by the sale of arms to Iran.

General Secord said he forswore any profits generated by the deal and left them to his business partner, Mr Albert Hakim, "to do with what he wished." "Of course it's the fact or I wouldn't have testified to it," he said testily in answer to a question about a statement he had made in the hearings on Wednesday.

At another point he dismissed Mr Liman's questions as focusing on "technical" bookkeeping issues when there were more important matters to attend to.

"I've got a special prosecutor over here across the street who's trying to throw us all in jail for performing our duty as we saw it," he retorted, referring to Mr Lawrence Walsh, the independent counsel investigating the Iran-Contra scandal.

He added: "I haven't focused on some technical issues, like you're bringing up here. This is crazy." General Secord has been testifying under oath without immunity.

thus laying himself open to possible criminal charges.

President Reagan issued a stern denial yesterday of General Secord's testimony that Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, the sacked National Security Council aide, had mentioned to the President that profits from the sale of arms to Iran were being diverted to the Contras.

"I did not know that there was any excess money until that day — the day that Ed Meese (the Attorney-General) came in and said he had found a memo that indicated there was additional money," Mr Reagan said. "I did not know about it and I'm still waiting to know where did that money go?"

The aggressive questioning of General Secord had been predicted by members of the Iran-Contra hearings. The aim, they said privately, was to challenge his credibility in the previous two days of questioning General Secord replied in a calm, collected baritone and did not once lose his cool.

His testimony has shed some light on the money trail and the "privatization" of an important US foreign policy issue. He has emphasized that he was acting as a private individual.

He said yesterday that he resented being called a profiteer. He insisted he had been treated unfairly for carrying out the Government's wishes.

He said he had made no profits from the operation.

US arrests 350 in drug 'sting'

From Charles Bremner
San Francisco

American police have arrested 350 big-time cocaine smugglers in an international "sting" operation that Mr Edwin Meese, the Attorney General, called the most successful undercover anti-drug operation in US history.

The suspected bosses of two of the hemisphere's biggest drug rings were among those netted in the past week after undercover agents wound up "Operation Piscees", a three-year effort in which they became the bankers to the elite of the drug business.

"The results are unprecedented," said a triumphant Mr Meese, announcing the operation at a Los Angeles press conference late on Wednesday.

"This is the largest and most successful undercover anti-drug operation in US history."

Ten tons of cocaine and \$50 million in cash and assets were seized in raids in Los Angeles, New York and Miami in the closing stage of the operation, which was run with the co-operation of the Panamanian authorities.

He added that 115 members of international drug rings and money-laundering groups had been charged that day because of Operation Piscees.

Drawing their example from a string of FBI successes in "sting" operations against organized crime, the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) targeted the huge profits made by the big cocaine cartels, mainly operating out of Colombia.

They posed as bankers with wide connections in the murky world of off-shore money laundering and won the confidence of the smugglers, eager to turn their dirty cash into respectable bank deposits and investments.

Panama co-operated in the false laundering service, agreeing to waive the country's strict laws of banking secrecy.

The Panamanian Attorney



A US Drug Enforcement Agency officer handcuffing suspected drug dealers Anibal Zapata, right, and Juan Alvarez after their arrival at a private airport in Miami from Colombia.

General, Señor Carlos Villalaz, appeared at the Los Angeles press conference at DEA headquarters along with Mr Meese.

"In Panama we don't talk, we act," he said.

Mr Meese, who showed off bags containing 600 lb of cocaine, \$600,000 in cash and gold and other jewellery, said the operation had dealt a big blow to the drug business.

A drug cartel could survive the arrest of its leaders "but it

cannot survive the substantial loss of its assets," he said.

"Operation Piscees says to traffickers the world over that drug assets and the profits from drug activities cannot be secure. There will be no safe haven for drug money," Mr Meese added.

Among those arrested was an alleged top Colombian cartel boss, José Aluí Lopez-Chacon, who was lured to Miami on Wednesday believing he was about to meet

important business contacts.

The operation also captured two other Colombians, Anibal Zapata, the suspected leader of one of the country's two biggest drug rings, and Jacobo Waserman.

American television showed video films of the DEA agents' transactions with the drug smugglers.

In one scene, agents are seen receiving a bag containing \$700,000 in drug profits for deposit in a Panama bank.

Soviet art gets taste of freedom

From Christopher Walker
Moscow

The limits of glasnost (openness) in relation to Stalin's reign of terror in the 1930s were extended dramatically yesterday in the huge Soviet state art gallery on the banks of the Moskva river, traditionally a bastion of Communist cultural conservatism.

Guests at the opening of the exhibition by members of the Soviet Academy of Arts — an important event held only once every five years — were amazed to find that the centrepiece was a striking canvas, measuring two metres by two metres, depicting the arrest of the artist's father by three members of Stalin's notorious NKVD (the People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs).

Entitled 1937, the year when the dictator's paranoid purges were reaching new peaks, the starkly impressive painting by the Soviet artist Dmitry Zhilinsky carried the inscription on its frame in gold letters: "Dedicated to those who perished innocently at the time of repression."

At the centre of the canvas, described by the organizers as the single most important work among nearly 1,400 exhibits, the victim stands pathetically in his underclothes with his arms in the air as three uniformed members of the secret police hunt through his personal belongings and his family look on helplessly in fear and despair.

WORLD SUMMARY

Russians expel New Zealander

Moscow (Reuter) — A New Zealand Embassy employee, Mr David Nicol, said by Moscow to be a diplomat, was declared *persona non grata* yesterday for activities the Russians said were incompatible with his status, and he was ordered to leave the country within seven days.

In Wellington, New Zealand officials said Mr Nicol was not a diplomat, but an employee of the Ministry of Works who was posted to Moscow to help maintain embassy premises.

The action appeared to be in response to the expulsion from New Zealand last month of the Soviet diplomat, Mr Sergei Budnik, who was accused of spying.

Lubbers fire-bomb Landslide claims 82

Amsterdam — A fire-bomb was thrown through a sitting-room window at the home of the Dutch Prime Minister, Mr Ruud Lubbers, on Wednesday, causing a small fire. Mr Lubbers and his wife Ria were in the room but were not injured (A Correspondent writes).

Mr Lubbers put out the fire and threw part of the bomb through the broken window. The blaze damaged curtains, the carpet and a sideboard. The attacker's identity was still unknown.

Koto Panjang, Indonesia (Reuter) — Hundreds of troops and civilian rescue workers were digging out bodies for the third consecutive day as the death toll climbed to 82 yesterday after a landslide swamped a village in West Sumatra.

The rescue was assisted by bulldozers and excavators as intermittent rain hampered the effort. Officials said that 653 people had been evacuated from the village, which supports itself by labour at a limestone quarry.

300,000 Greeks strike

Athens (Reuter) — State hospitals, schools and government offices were closed throughout Greece yesterday as more than 300,000 workers staged strikes against an austerity programme which includes a wage freeze.

About 8,000 workers marched through the centre of the capital carrying banners saying "No to austerity measures" and chanting slogans against the two-year belt-tightening programme introduced in October 1985.

Time to forget Nouméa poll

Peking — Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's senior leader, yesterday told Mr Todor Zhivkov, chief of Bulgaria's Communist Party, that their two countries should forget their past differences and look to the future (writes Robert Grieses). "What is past is past," he said.

The two leaders met in the Great Hall of the People here on the third day of Mr Zhivkov's five-day visit to China, which ends a 30-year diplomatic hiatus between the two countries.

Paris — The Government's controversial Bill setting out the terms for a referendum on the future of the French overseas territory of New Caledonia has become law after being passed by the Senate late on Wednesday night (Diana Geddes writes).

Evangelist dismissed

Washington — Mr Jim Bakker, the former head of the Praise the Lord (PTL) television ministry, has been dismissed as a minister of the pentecostal Assemblies of God for "conduct unbecoming" to his position (Christopher Thomas writes).

Mr Richard Dortch, another former leader of PTL, was also dismissed as a minister for taking part in an attempted cover-up of Mr Bakker's sexual encounter seven years ago with a church secretary. Mr Bakker has turned over control of the PTL ministry, which is based in South Carolina and last year had an income of \$127 million (£75.6 million), to a new board headed by Mr Jerry Falwell, a southern Baptist

The Harts reunited



Mr Gary Hart, the contender for the presidential nomination, and his wife Lee, greeting residents of a New Hampshire town on Wednesday night. It was the first time the couple had been together since controversy erupted over Mr Hart's weekend activities with a Miami woman.

Malta's general election

Nationalists plan EEC bid

If the Nationalist Party (PN) win the acutely-balanced general election this week "Malta will at once cease to play the part of the maverick of international affairs: no longer will Malta's interests be seen as identical to those of Libya".

So declared Dr Eddie Fenech Adami, the leader of the PN Party, talking to *The Times* on the final day of electioneering in a fierce and closely fought campaign which closed with nearly one in three of the 330,000 population attending rallies.

One of his first acts if his party claims the majority of the 65 seats in tomorrow's voting will be to make a formal declaration of an intention to join the EEC. "It will be long-term — but Malta will have this sense of direction," he said.

What of Malta's current alliances which so alarmed the West? Malta will try to remain friends with Libya with whom it has many trading links. "But what will be closed will be incidents which have done us no good in the eyes of the world," he said.

"For example the 1985 treaty, a quasi-military alliance to 'harmonize our security arrangements' with those of Libya. What need of this

harmony have we? We won't need to abrogate the treaty but its provisions will never be implemented."

What of the Soviet Union for whom Malta is building eight ships? "We have no evidence that Russia has ever interfered in our affairs, we shall, therefore, try to improve our trade relations."

However, a Nationalist victory might also begin the process by which Malta's next president may be Dr Dom Mintoff, the man behind the rise of the Labour Party which has governed Malta for 16 years, and who sought the friendships and created the frictions which gave Malta that label of maverick.

Dr Fenech Adami refused to deny the possibility that his party in victory would go along with a Labour suggestion for the elevation of Dr Mintoff to the presidency as "an aid to balance in Maltese politics, having a president chosen from the party opposite to that in government".

"I would not rule it out. Politics is the art of the possible. But don't you think it extraordinary they should make this suggestion now, as though Labour is getting ready to concede defeat?"

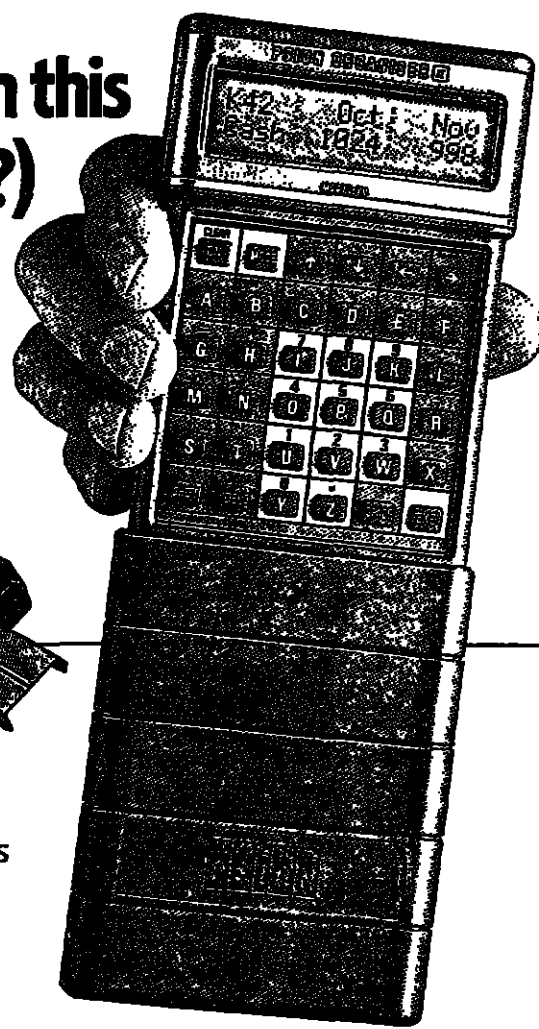
The suggestion of elevation for Dr Mintoff was made by his successor, Dr Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici, the Prime Minister, who said that to attract Dr Mintoff the presidency would need to be supported by two thirds rather than a simple majority of deputies, and would have increased powers, able to make senior appointments such as chairman of the electoral commission, the broadcasting systems, the police and armed forces.

In contrast with the PN leader, Dr Bonnici claimed that it was Malta's friendship with Libya which alone kept the African country from totally joining its interests with the Soviet Union and that the value of Malta's place as "bridge" between East and West was recognized by former critics such as Israel.

Of Malta's domestic affairs he insisted that persistent opposition charges of corruption had not, in four years, been substantiated with evidence and that accusations that Labour would try to hold on to power by devious election means were "opposition fantasies". "If we do not get the majority we will walk away. Quietly. Within the hour," Dr Bonnici said.

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South African election • Botha triumph • Liberal rout • Exile's return • Blacks disconsolate

White lurch to right stuns reform lobby

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

On the eve of this week's white elections in South Africa an Australian television journalist was expelled for trying to send abroad a report in which, among other things, he commented that the choice facing white voters was between "the right, the far right and the extreme right".

That did less than justice to some of the parties and candidates running but was a pretty fair description of how the bulk of whites voted.

An inescapable fact that emerges from the election result is that more than 80 per cent of whites either voted for the modified apartheid offered by President Botha's ruling National Party (NP) or the outright apartheid which the Conservative Party (CP) of Dr Andries Treurnicht and the Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP) of Dr Jaap Marais would like to re-impose, while the anti-apartheid liberal Progressive Federal Party (PFP) saw its support slashed.

The one counter-current in this broad right-wing surge was the relatively good showing, at least in terms of votes cast, of the three leading independent candidates to the left of the Government. Mr Wynand Malan in Randburg

in Johannesburg, the only one to win a seat. Dr Denis Worrall in Helderberg in the western Cape, and Dr Esther Lategan in neighbouring Stellenbosch.

For South Africa's voteless blacks, there can only be one conclusion, and that is that any lingering hope that real reform, let alone a change of government, can be brought about through the white parliamentary process has been dashed. No wonder that the Zulu leader, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, the one conservative black politician with any following, pronounced himself "totally appalled" by the election outcome.

It is ironic that whites should have lurched so sharply to the right when black leaders, however dismissive in public, were showing an unprecedented interest in the election.

Even Mrs Winnie Mandela, who had earlier scorned the poll as a pointless circus, would have urged "white South Africans of relevance to vote against apartheid" in the speech she was prevented by the police from delivering at the University of the Witwatersrand this week.

Mr Colin Eglin, the leader of

the PFP, which saw its share of the popular vote drop from around 19 per cent in 1981 to 14 per cent and its position as official opposition pass to the CP, candidly conceded that his party and "the concept of a reform alliance developing into an alternative government for South Africa" had suffered "a major setback".

The PFP's alliance with the small New Republic Party (NRP), the rump of the old United Party of General Smuts, proved a disastrous miscalculation. At dissolution, the NRP had four seats in Natal, the only province with a majority of English speakers, and one in the Cape. Instead of voting for the PFP, however, the NRP's supporters turned out en masse for the Government, and the Party was virtually wiped out, retaining only one seat.

The Natal *indaba*, the all-race conference which last year recommended a qualified form of black majority rule for the province, has been dealt a mortal blow. Its most notorious opponent, Mr Stoffel Botha, the Minister of Home Affairs, was returned with a bigger majority, while its most assiduous champion, Mr Frank Martin of the NRP, was



The former South African Ambassador to London, Mr Chris Heunis, gives the thumbs-up sign after hearing news of his party's narrow victory in the election. Mr Worrall (left), looking on as the Government Minister, Mr

humiliatingly defeated. So much for the allegedly "liberal" English vote.

Indeed, one of the main features of the election was the mass defection of English voters from the PFP to the Government.

In the words of *Business Day*, a financial daily many of whose readers must have been among those defectors, "English voters, sacrificing at last the role of keepers of a liberal flame, chose to liquidate themselves as an identifiable political force".

Dr Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert, the Afrikaner academic who resigned last year as leader of the PFP to pursue

a career in extra-parliamentary politics, commented that it was one of the ironies of the election that "at a time when Afrikaner yuppies appear to be moving away from the Government their English counterparts are going in the opposite direction".

His views were echoed by Professor Sampie Terreblanche, the political economist who leads the Afrikaner academic revolt at Stellenbosch. "A lot of English people were frightened back into the laager by the Government's scaremongering on the security issue," he said. "They apparently saw this as the best way to protect their financial vested in-

terests. It proves what many of us have always said, that many English people are more conservative than many Afrikaners."

Professor Terreblanche said that he stood by his view that the NP was no longer capable of being a vehicle for reform, but it was equally clear that disenchanted Afrikaners were not prepared to vote for the PFP in any numbers. The independents, he said, had to be the nucleus of a completely new grouping, but he could not offer any clear idea how this was to come about.

Dr Slabbert agreed that the strong showing by the independents indicated a deep unhappiness with the Govern-

ment in liberal Afrikaner circles, but he did not see the independents, the PFP and reform-minded members of the NP being able to form the core of a new political alignment to the left of the Government unless they were prepared "to look outside Parliament".

For Dr Treurnicht, who broke away from the NP to form the right-wing CP in 1982, the capture of 26 per cent of the popular vote is an important advance. It has not brought him many more seats than before. But it has left him poised to make further gains if Mr Botha now tries to speed up reform to recapture terri-

tory ceded to the independents.

The right did much better than expected. The failure of the CP to form an electoral pact with the older and much smaller HNP did not in the end matter all that much. The HNP was demolished, losing its one seat in Parliament, while its candidates lost their deposits all over the country. It can only be a matter of time before the party is absorbed by the CP.

Mr Botha, who saw his share of the popular vote drop slightly from 57 to 53 per cent but his share of seats increase, can now reasonably claim that he has a white mandate for what he calls "broadening democracy through a process of evolutionary reform". This, however, means no more than allowing blacks a measure of autonomy in their segregated townships and rural homelands, and some kind of consultative role "on matters of common interest" in an all-race council of state.

There is absolutely no evidence that any black leaders of substance will buy this package, or that Mr Botha is prepared to go any further. The prospect is thus of a long and sterile period ahead, accompanied by increasing violence. The Government is expected to keep the state of emergency in force indefinitely, to crack down still further on the press and freedom of information, and to move against trade unions and extra-parliamentary organizations, especially those with foreign funding.

Mulder back from the wilderness

From Ray Kennedy, Cape Town

Dr Connie Mulder, the man who in 1978 came within 13 National Party caucus votes of becoming South Africa's Prime Minister instead of Mr P.W. Botha, is back in Parliament after eight years in the political wilderness.

He won Randfontein in the Transvaal for the extreme right-wing Conservative Party, which did not exist in 1981 when white South Africans last went to the polls. In Wednesday's election the party secured 542,000 votes — nearly double the number polled by the liberal Progressive Federal Party (PFP) which it has ousted as the official Opposition.

Dr Mulder was returned in the seat he resigned from in 1979 over his involvement with Mr John Vorster in a scandal over the misappropriation of millions in taxpayers' money for secret propaganda projects.

Now that he is back in Parliament the intriguing question must be how soon will he challenge Dr Andries Treurnicht for the leadership of the ultra right?

Although both men share the same extreme outlook, observers believe that Dr Mulder's political ambitions, thwarted for nearly a decade, could set off a battle within the country's new official opposition party.

Dr Mulder, now aged 62,

and with a build like that of a Springbok rugby forward, was one of the National Party's brightest stars during Mr Vorster's premiership. He entered the Cabinet at the age of 43.

His Cabinet status rose rapidly and within four years he was Interior Minister and leader of the National Party in the Transvaal, then considered to be the most powerful post in the country after the Prime Minister's.

He was widely considered to be Mr Vorster's unchallenged heir apparent. When Mr Vorster resigned as Prime Minister in 1978 he was only 13 votes away from succeeding him on the first ballot.

With Mr R.F. "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister and challenger for the Transvaal leadership, playing middle-man, Mr Alwyn Schlebusch, the Orange Free State leader, pitched in for Mr Botha on the second ballot and Dr Mulder's bid was narrowly defeated.

Dr Mulder's political philosophy can be summed up by a statement he made in London in 1971, when he said: "We in South Africa do not regard ourselves as above criticism. We have made mistakes in the past and will make mistakes in the future, but we are not prepared to sacrifice our identity as a nation in our own right to satisfy the demands of world opinion."

Howe call for arms vigilance

By Andrew McEwen, Diplomatic Correspondent

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday that caution was needed on Moscow's recent arms control offers.

"Vigilance is especially needed now in sorting the wheat from the chaff of Soviet initiatives," he said in a speech to the Royal Institute of International Affairs.

"We must not only look out for dangers ahead; our vigilance must extend no less to the opportunities which may be opening up."

His speech seemed to hint that the Government had little enthusiasm for Mr Mikhail Gorbachev's offer to eliminate shorter-range missiles from Europe.

But he refused to be drawn on the subject, continuing the Government policy of waiting until the West German Government has produced a clearer response.

● **BOON:** Chancellor Kohl of West Germany said yesterday that Bonn's answer to the Soviet proposal for a Double Zero option on East-West missiles in Europe would depend on what Moscow put in writing on a treaty covering shorter-range missiles (John England writes).

Herr Kohl said there were differences between Soviet statements made in Moscow and Geneva, as well as what the chief Soviet negotiator had said in Bonn on Wednesday.

● **WASHINGTON:** The House of Representatives has voted to try to compel President Reagan to adhere to its interpretation of the 1979 Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty and the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, despite warnings that he would veto any such mandatory legislation (Mehsin Ali writes).

Death row prisoners in jail riot

Lagos (Reuters) — Dozens of condemned men beat an executioner senseless during a riot at a Nigerian jail but could not prevent two convicts being hanged, newspapers reported.

They said 70 men on death row went on the rampage at Benin City prison, east of Lagos. Two hundred police opened fire and used tear gas to bring the riot under control.

Peace walk

Moscow (Reuters) — Four hundred Soviet and American citizens have been given permission to make a month-long peace walk from Leningrad to Moscow in June, American organizers of the march said.

Aids fraud

Manila (AFP) — Laboratories are providing Filipino workers bound for Saudi Arabia with fake Aids clearance certificates, health officials said.

Attack claim

Cairo (AFP) — A previously unknown organization calling itself the Islamic Group has claimed Tuesday's murder attempt against the former Egyptian Interior Minister, Mr Hassan Abu Basha, the *al-Wahd* newspaper reported.

Bus tragedy

Bangkok (AFP) — Twenty people were killed and 27 others injured when a bus carrying teachers and college officials crashed into the side of a mountain in western Thailand.

Envoys out

Port Vila (AP) — The Vanuatu Government has ordered two Libyan diplomats to leave the island after they arrived without proper accreditation to open an embassy.

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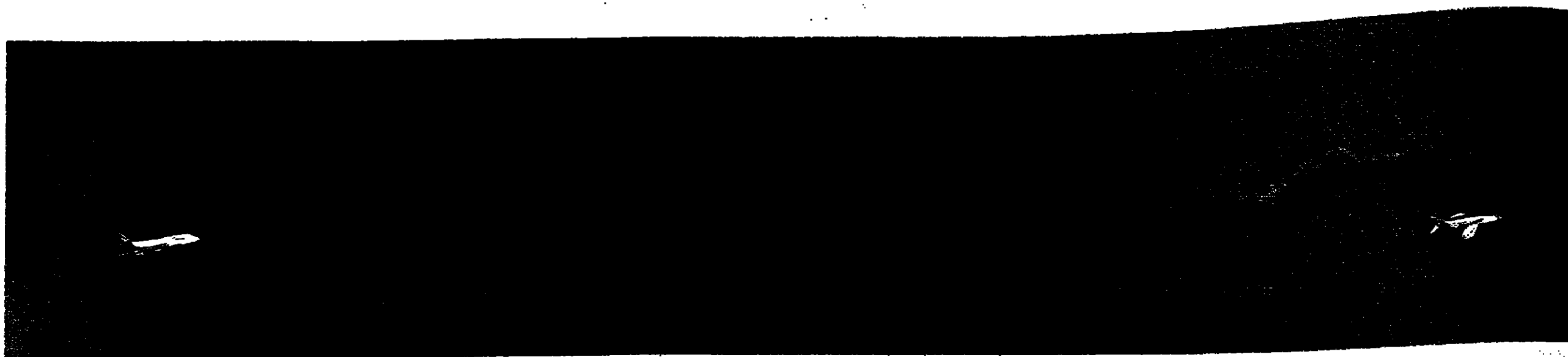
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Alcohol also affects the body's ability to use oxygen efficiently. (So does smoking). And since there's less oxygen floating around in an aircraft cabin, if you get a hangover it's really going to hang around.

So while a few drinks might make you feel all's well in the world, when you get down to earth you won't feel like getting down to business.

EAT, DRINK AND BE MERRY

Even when everything's free, you can end up paying for it later. Studies have shown that in the air most people drink more than they do on the ground: and it's a bit of a vicious circle.

A long flight can get a bit boring, however comfortable it is. The drinks are free and you don't have to move an inch to get one. What's more, just *being* on a plane makes you thirsty. The humidity in an aircraft is as low as 2% whereas most of us are used to a level of around 30%.

Alcohol is not the solution. You need to drink much more than usual, but more water or fruit juice. And if you need a 'drink' to relax, have a glass or two with your meal and drink lots of water or juice in between – and any trips to the loo give you a chance to stretch your limbs.

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air pressure. Crossing time zones confuses the digestive system anyway without any extra help from you.

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Britain fights California state Bill calling for disinvestment in Ulster

British officials have mounted an intense lobbying effort in California to stall a state law that could deter big American corporations from investing in Northern Ireland.

The disinvestment Bill, known as AB 1855, would instruct California's huge state pension funds to withhold investment from companies failing to observe the so-called MacBride principles for fair employment of Ulster Catholics.

Mr Hayden says the Bill aims at the \$140 million invested with firms such as the Ford Motor Company and American Brands.

"We're trying to make sure that our pension investments promote non-discrimination wherever they are located," Mr Hayden told *The Times*.

The nine principles, drawn up by the Irish politician and international activist Mr Sean MacBride, require employers to guarantee protection for Catholics travelling to their jobs and other measures of effective anti-discrimination.

Other US states, including New York and Massachusetts, have passed similar measures to the one proposed here, but California's is the most sweeping.

Mr Hayden says his Bill is mild compared with measures against South Africa and was not aimed at forcing disinvestment in the province.

But Britain is taking the Bill very seriously and the British Consul-General in San Francisco, Mr Graham Burton, has been campaigning in Sacramento to have it thrown out by the Democrat-dominated legislature.

Miss Sandy Burke, a Vice-Consul, said Britain is "wor-

ried about any signal or move that would discourage further investment in the province and threaten investments that are already there". Britain is also using one of the state's top professional lobbyists, Mr Donald Burns, to campaign on its behalf. A measure that Mr Burns believes may have broken the law, "I think they're maybe violating the campaign lobby laws because they haven't registered as agents of the British Government."

Under American law, agents of a foreign government must register themselves with Washington. Miss Burke said Mr Burns was an Anglophile who was providing his services free of charge.

The assembly committee dealing with the Bill is due to consider it later this week. The *San Francisco Examiner* took the British side in an editorial on Monday, saying the Bill was largely an attempt by pro-Irish groups to "bash the British by equating their rule in Northern Ireland with South African apartheid."

Gestapo agents named in UN papers

Jewish congress demands secret war criminal files

From Richard Bassett, Budapest

The World Jewish Congress ended its two-day meeting in Budapest yesterday with a passionate demand for the United Nations to publish its files on 40,000 suspected war criminals.

The files, which include lists of concentration camp personnel, were compiled by the Allied War Crimes Commission and are only available to countries on a confidential case-by-case basis.

Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the UN Secretary-General, has so far refused to publish them, and of the 17 nations which made up the now defunct commission, only one, Australia, has supported the motion to publish.

The suppression of these files was an "obscene perversion of justice", Mr Elan

Steinberg, an American delegate to the WJC, said.

"For more than 40 years, governments, both East and West, have conspired to keep these files secret."

Delegates to the Congress were convinced yesterday, however, that Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, would be announcing very soon that the US no longer had any objection to the files being published.

In the meantime, details of the files, whose existence was only highlighted last year with the Waldheim affair, were disclosed to journalists in Budapest yesterday.

No one who saw them could doubt that a spate of prosecutions involving by now very

old men, will be the result of the files' publication.

Most of the files are in English. Among them are complete lists of the entire staff of Auschwitz and several other concentration camps.

Also included in the files is a comprehensive list of property and art confiscated from European Jewry by the Nazis.

"This list in particular will allow civil as well as criminal actions to go to the courts," a WJC spokesman gleefully observed.

Asked whether publishing the files would not jeopardize many innocent people who were on the list but whose cases had never been proved, a delegate said: "It is in the interests of these people in particular that the list is published."

The trial of Klaus Barbie

Prospective jurors make their excuses

From Michael McCarthy Lyons

They filed into the courtroom slightly bemused, playing it cool, in an uncertain state of quiet between embarrassment and excitement. A couple of them gossiped and giggled. Others looked at the policemen and the TV cameras with awe.

They were an ordinary everyday bunch of well-worn suits and inexpensive dresses, even a leather jacket, a clerk, a teacher, a hairdresser, a haulage contractor, 21 men and 15 women giving no sign at all that they had even been anywhere but on the periphery of history's great events.

But nine of their number will be chosen by lot on Monday morning to write perhaps the final chapter of the Second World War, when they form the jury to try Klaus Barbie, the Gestapo chief of Lyons, for "crimes against humanity".

Although Monday marks the formal opening of the long-awaited trial, the proceedings actually began here yesterday, quietly enough, when the pool of men and women from whom the jury will be selected were assembled in the newly decorated Assize Court.

They ranged in age from 23 to 36, averaging 44; most of them were not alive when the German was pursuing his



Two members of the French Special Forces standing guard on the roof of a building in Lyons, close to the court where Klaus Barbie, head of the Gestapo in the city during the Second World War, goes on trial on Monday for crimes against humanity.

alleged career of torture, execution and deportation in their city. And the chance of bringing to justice the most hated man in France did not, for several, take precedence over more mundane considerations: one man said his

business would suffer, another said he had a sick child, a third had slipped a disc last Friday and did not think he could sit through the entire trial. Seven of those originally summoned were absent and sent in sick notes, and two simply did not

turn up: the police may soon be knocking on their doors. All-in-all, a very human lot, and now, after the historians and commentators have had their lengthy say, the ones who matter.

Those who are chosen will spend eight weeks hearing the accusations against Barbie. Keeping order will be the President of the court, M André Cerdini, who made his first appearance yesterday, a 59-year-old regional judge in his first really big trial.

Izieu still weeps for the death camp children

The trial of Klaus Barbie, the former Gestapo chief, opens in Lyons on Monday. One of the "crimes against humanity" with which he is charged is that of ordering the "liquidation" of a home for Jewish children at Izieu, in the hills above the Rhine Valley, in the Department of Ain.

Alan McGreggor reports from the hamlet on the memories of that day when 44 children and seven teachers and helpers were taken away. M Henri Perret, aged 73, the Mayor of Izieu, said: "What occurred is something so far removed from normal life that it's difficult for people to find the words when talking about it. Whatever sentence is imposed on Barbie cannot be appropriate to the crime."

No more than 12 of the village's 136 inhabitants are old enough to remember the events of that fine spring morning on April 6, 1944. "From the window there, I saw the trucks with the children and the soldiers come down the road from Izieu, and we knew they were being taken away," said Mme Paulette Candy. "Everyone knew M and Mme Zlatin," she added, referring to the couple who established the home - officially named "Settlement for Refugee Children from Heran".

M Miron Zlatin, aged 39, an agronomist, became known to everyone in the district as he made his daily round to buy food for 50 people.

The children, aged from five upwards, also became familiar to all as they passed by to fetch milk. M Julian Favet, aged 65, was working in a nearby field

and saw what happened when two cars and two trucks with uniformed men and Gestapo in leather coats drove into the courtyard at the home. He is to be a witness at the trial.

M Zlatin, "who kept his wits about him", was beaten and pushed into a truck, the children thrown in after him "like packing cases".

As the convoy started back down the hill, the children, from France and other Nazi-occupied countries, sang *Vous n'avez pas l'Alsace et La Lorraine*.

After a night at Fort Montluc, Lyons, the children were sent to a collection centre at Drancy, near Paris. From there, 34 children and four women were deported to Auschwitz on April 13. The children and three adults were taken from the platform at

Birkenau to the gas chamber. The fourth woman was put to one side and survived to tell what happened.

The others still at Drancy were deported later. M Zlatin and the two eldest boys were imprisoned at the fortress in Tallin before being shot. His wife, Sabina, a French Red Cross nurse who was instrumental in getting many children smuggled into Switzerland, had left Izieu on April 3 in search of a new refuge.

New aged 83 and living in Paris, she has come back regularly to Izieu on the April 6 anniversary. Two mothers of the same age, Mme Fortuone Benguigui, with three sons, exterminated at Auschwitz, and Mme Itah Halasambrenner, who lost two daughters, were at the village last month

on France's "day of the deportees" (April 26).

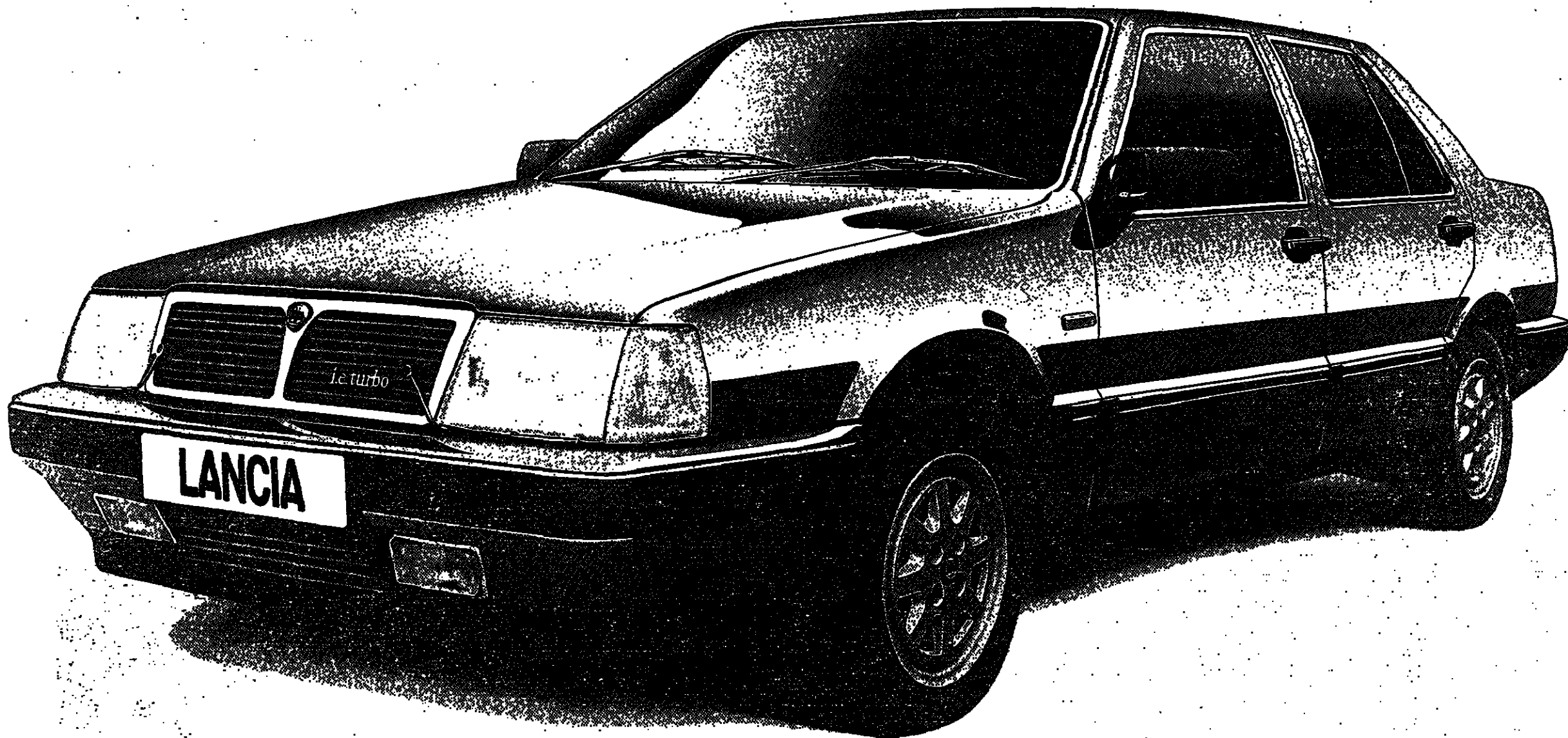
Much is now known of the children of Izieu's origins and the year they spent - happily, as photographs show - at the home, thanks to the research of M Serge Klarfeld.

He and his wife, Beate, a German Lutheran, traced Barbie to Bolivia in 1971. Extradition efforts finally succeeded in February, 1983.

Recently everyone at Izieu in the telephone directory has received an anonymous anti-Semitic pamphlet asserting that the Auschwitz gas chambers existed "only to kill lice" and that there was no organized "final solution". In a tiny village, so vividly conscious of how those children were transported to their deaths, this is regarded as particularly obscene.

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SPECTRUM

The drive for money, like the drive for power, is obsessive

Former Senator Gary Hart's presidential campaign is not only dogged by his reputation as a ladies' man, he is desperate for money. The humiliation of having cheques and cash seized by Federal marshals at a glittering Hollywood fund-raising party last month has inflicted grave damage on his campaign. Money is coming in too slowly and big Democratic contributors are holding back, worried that he will not last the course.

Creditors are hanging on his door for the \$1.3 million (approximately £802,500) that he never paid back from his unsuccessful 1984 bid for the Democratic nomination. He has asked the Federal Election Commission for permission to use funds raised for the 1988 campaign to pay off his 1984 debts, but that would be fraught with legal problems. Unless he can clear the debt, other creditors are going to demand the seizure of assets. Indeed, his night of indiscretion with actress Donna Rice, if

in fact that is what it was, could prove a costly disaster.

The "character question" dogs him. Reporters used to be discreet about the personal indiscretions of candidates, but no more. As *The New York Times* commented: "Appearances count in politics, and for Mr Hart, who's tried so hard to shed a womanizing reputation, these appearances raise damaging questions about discipline and even recklessness."

Face-to-face, Hart seems cold and distant. He is questioned constantly about his personality and his emotions. Recently a Washington journalist devoted an entire column to the question of his alleged womanizing, and whether it really mattered. The conclusion was that it did, because it revealed something of the man's make-up, and voters had a right to know.

Friends say Hart genuinely believes America is ready for a new approach to politics, and that is why he is subjecting

himself to such a battering. But they are also confused by his ambition, since he is so immensely shy. People remember him standing alone against the wall at receptions before he became so famous. He does not talk much. He is a loner. Hart is not the only candidate who is deeply in debt. Several others from 1984 are still struggling to clear their campaign debts. By the time Senator John Glenn gave up the fight for the nomination he owed \$3 million. He ran again, successfully, for the Senate last year, which was wise: his continued political activity is the only reason anybody would consider making contributions towards his debts. He is a rich man, but he cannot personally pay his



Dogged by debts: former Senator Gary Hart

creditors because of a law limiting a candidate's contributions to his own campaign to \$1,000. Nowadays it takes the arcane art of the legal profession to sort out the complex spending and contribution limits under election legislation. Various innovations pop

up in every presidential race to get round the rules. Unions, for example, spent millions in 1984 to "educate" their members about the merits of Walter Mondale, the Democratic presidential candidate. The device meant that the unions were not restrained by normal limits on political expenditure.

Presidential campaign spending is partially paid for by public financing under the federal "matching" system.

There is no public funding towards congressional elections. The biggest congressional election orgy in history was in North Carolina in 1984, when Senator Jesse Helms spent more than \$20 million to get re-elected. President Reagan's re-election campaign in 1984 involved 300 salaried employees operating in every state. Salaries ranged from \$60,000 annually for top staffers, to \$125 a week for routine jobs.

It is part of American election lore that Democratic candidates raise less money than Republicans. The leanest campaigner of all is the Reverend Jesse Jackson, the silver-tongued Baptist preacher, whose candidacy is built largely on church support. Clergy in black churches are Jackson's fund-raisers. The potential is vast: nearly 17 million members in 63,000 congregations. Jackson continually moves among them, giving articulate, passionate sermons, raising money on collection plates as he goes.

Among presidential contenders, the drive for money, like the drive for power, is obsessive. It brings about some distasteful excesses. Hart, for example, went back to his boyhood home in Kansas, where, accompanied by an army of reporters and photographers, he visited his parents' grave. Later he lost control and nearly cried in front of 700 people as he tried to talk about his mother and father. His staff was delighted. "Anything that humanizes him..." said his pollster, Paul Tully.

His money problems are extremely human. His rivals for the nomination are quietly building up their reserves, while spending comparatively little. As the front-runner, Hart has to maintain a pace that the others will not even attempt to match until the end of the year. The old maxim of American politics holds true: you are as good as your money. And Hart patently does not have enough of it.

Christopher Thomas

Mark Rogers

In search of a scorcher

The two most common reactions to the sizzling weather which came to an end last week were as typical of the British character as they were divergent. "We're in for a super summer, I can feel it in my bones," said the optimists. "Summer?" responded more sanguine crystal-gazers, "that probably was our summer." Others will already have consulted their seaweed or checked on the local ladybird population. It has certainly not escaped the notice of amateur weatherman Arthur Mackins that the year after the appearance of Halley's Comet is "always a scorcher".

But is it really guesswork? Or is there a predictable divinity which shapes our seasons? One thing is certain. If any of the amateur forecasters offered their theories down at Bracknell, where the £55 million-a-year Meteorological Office has its headquarters, they would be politely shown the door. And with very good reason.

April 1987 will go down in the record books as the month when the wise Italian or Iberian sun-worshipper picked up a package holiday in England, and when London recorded its hottest spring day since 1959. Chris Folland, principal scientific officer at the Met Office's synoptic climatology branch, will be forgiven readily, however, if he remembers the month with less enthusiasm. "Rather below average temperatures" was how, on the last day of March, his department forecast the next 30 days.

"It was the south winds in the second half of the month which caught us out," Folland says. "I am afraid that it

Amateurs can be as reliable as experts in forecasting the weather for our holidays, says William Greaves

wasn't one of our better performances.

But then the Met Office is nothing if not realistic. It began publishing long-range predictions only in December 1963. And it finally abandoned the service in 1980, not only because Civil Service cutbacks stripped it of personnel, but also because it had sadly to concede that its results were "little better than could have been explained by chance".

Research continued, however, and in the last seven years Bracknell has improved its performance to a point tentatively described by a spokesman as "15 to 20 per cent better than chance. What that means," he says, "is that about six-and-a-half times out of 10 we are more right than wrong."

So why does the Met Office persist with an area of research which, by its own admission, is unlikely to achieve reliable success? "Because there has always been some optimism," Folland says, "that it will be possible to issue long-range forecasts which are a sufficient improvement on chance to be of use to commercial operations, energy concerns, water authorities and various aspects of agriculture."

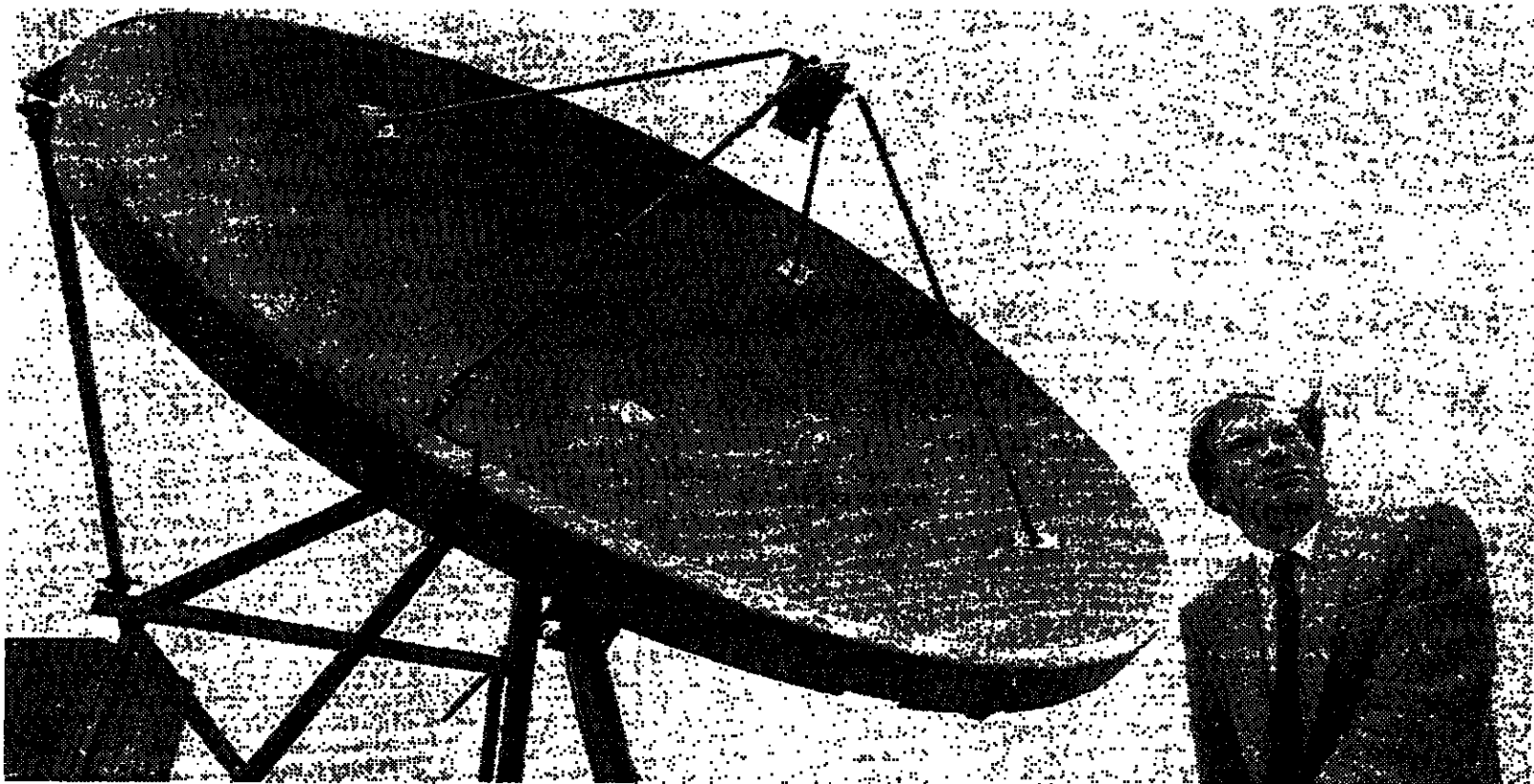
The 17-nation European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting, even aided by the latest atmospheric data and one of the fastest computers in service, puts its outer limit of prediction at 10 days - and dismisses as "ridiculous" an American claim that an even faster computer, unveiled this week, could lead to "a completely accurate long-term weather forecast for the whole of Europe".

"Computers play one important part in forecasting, but all they can do is process existing atmospheric conditions," says J Austin Woods, scientific officer at the centre's headquarters near Reading. "One small unpredictable change after the readings have been fed in results in a small error, which immediately multiplies the further ahead you look. No computer can stop that."

With science largely admitting defeat, is it not time to listen to the laymen who put their trust in the theory that weather patterns repeat themselves? Is it fact or fiction, for instance, that hot summers are more likely to follow severe winters? Or that weather can be influenced by the eruption of volcanoes, the appearance of comets or the behaviour of seaweed?

"Global weather patterns do form a part of long-range forecasting," Folland admits, "but they have a habit of breaking down after a while and even reversing. As far as seaweed is concerned, it might tell you what the weather is going to be like in about six hours but that's about all."

William Burroughs, former



Optimistic: but despite the satellite dish, which receives information from across the equator, Chris Folland and the Meteorological Office often get it wrong

research scientist at the National Physical Laboratory and now a prominent weather writer and commentator, "sadly" agrees. "Up to 1975 all the good summers this century were in odd years. Then came 1976 - one of the hottest on record - and 1984 was also exceptionally dry. It's great fun looking for patterns but, quite bluntly, it doesn't work."

If July in Britain is an unknown quantity, however, there are parts of the world whose outlook is decidedly less unpredictable. At the Climatic Research Unit of the University of East Anglia, Graham Farmer is studying East African rainfall. "Using sea surface temperatures and indications of the state of the atmosphere, we are achieving interesting rainfall forecasts up to two or three months ahead," he says. "We don't attempt to predict exact rainfall in any particular small region but we can give reasonably reliable warnings of what to expect over a large area."

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So why don't the same methods work for Britain? "Completely different climatic systems," Farmer says. "In mid-latitudes, like ours, we have a much more vigorous weather system which changes far more rapidly."

But perhaps the greatest irony is that there are men at the East Anglia unit who have a pretty good idea what is going to happen to the world's weather 100 years from now.

"We expect the average annual temperature over the whole globe to increase by about three degrees centigrade by the middle of the next century," Farmer says. "I don't want to be a prophet of doom, but this will certainly raise the sea level and even small variations in that can have devastating results."

That, however, lies in the future. So does the summer of 1987. And what the weather is going to be like then is, it seems, anybody's guess.

WEATHER EYE: WHAT TO EXPECT THIS SUMMER

THE PROFESSIONAL

Chris Folland, principal scientific officer of synoptic climatology at the Meteorological Office: "Well, there has been a tendency over the last decade for finer, more settled, summers so I'll go for the probability of one better than average rather than worse. I'll put all of twopenny on it."

THE AMATEUR

Arthur Mackins, a retired bank clerk who began keeping records of weather patterns as a schoolboy with no confidence in barometers, claims that the end of last week's hot spell came as no surprise to him whatsoever. He is confident of "an absolute scorcher. Halley's Comet visited us in 1834, 1910 and 1986 - and 1835 and 1911 were both marvellous summers. Certain comets, but not all, do influence our climate."

THE EUROPEAN

Dr Lennart Bengtsson, Swedish director of the European Centre for Medium Range Weather Forecasting, near Reading, Berkshire, agrees with Met Office cynicism but says: "Put me down for a hot one - I'm an optimist."



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THE JOURNALIST

Dr William Burroughs, weather commentator and former researcher with the National Physical Laboratory, takes note of the fact that there is no instance in the last 300 years of the months since December producing a similar pattern of dramatic variations and predicts "a summer of extremes, varying from very hot to very poor. If that sounds like hedging my bets, I would point out that it would be very unusual to fluctuate so much."

THE SCIENTIST

Dr Graham Farmer, senior research assistant at the Climatic Research Unit, set up by Professor Hubert Lamb, at the University of East Anglia: "We rely entirely on funds from outside the university. If I get this wrong, we lose credibility. No credibility, no money. I'm saying nothing."

Pleased to thank you

The Polite Society is the brainchild of a beaming, white-haired gentleman, with a neat moustache and startling blue eyes. The Reverend Ian Gregory, the 53-year-old Congregationalist minister of Bastford, Staffordshire, was so incensed by general bad manners and aggressive behaviour that he launched the society last September "simply to put common courtesy back into British life". Membership stands at 500 and is growing steadily.

The society is currently on the look-out for the three politest politicians in the coming election, whose "conspicuous good manners as they argue their political case" will earn them special Polite Society certificates. Already nominated is Jack Ashley, the Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent.

Today, Shrewsbury, and on Monday, Newton Stewart, will be named respectively as Britain's and Scotland's most courteous towns. The society is asking businesses in Scotland to enter its "Courtesy Enterprise Scheme". And in the autumn, Gregory plans a Day of Courtesy (or a polite pause, as he calls it) in an effort to cut down road accidents. He is himself a courteous driver, never letting more than "What an idiot" pass his lips if another motorist does something daft. But he is not so controlled if a Jehovah's Witness arrives at his door. "I tell them to push off. It is awful, isn't it?"

Membership of the society got off to a good start, but Gregory believes that its code of conduct (which begins with the words "I will at all times be courteous to those with whom I have personal dealings") may be inhibiting and putting off potential members. He has received more than 2,000 let-

ters congratulating him on his efforts, and has written to 50 of the most enthusiastic asking why they had not joined. They replied that they were worried about keeping up such high standards.

Gregory, who has been a part-time minister for 20 years, was ordained four years ago. He ekes out his £4,000-a-year stipend by working three days a week as a sub-editor on the *Leek Post & Times*. His wife is a great supporter (though she is getting a bit

tired of so much paperwork around the house and not being able to use the dining room table), but his three children tend to keep out of it all. "They have their own lives to lead," says his father.

He is encouraged that four schools have become members (annual subscription £5, under 16 £2, and £20 for life) and reflects: "Too many parents are too busy and too selfish to bring up their children with good manners."

At the end of our interview, Gregory and I had a drink in the local pub with the unlikely name of The Quiet Woman. "Was there such a person?" I asked. "Only if they have passed on," he replied. I didn't think that was too polite.

Ann Steele

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CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1252

ACROSS
1 Hunt (6)
4 Shabby (6)
7 Piccadilly statue (4)
8 Melbourne state (8)
9 Upholstered (7)
11 Prickle (5)
12 Campbell speed lake (8,5)
15 Eating district (5)
16 Tumbler (7)
20 Thiamine deficiency disease (8)
21 Aspersions (4)
22 Rudderpost handle (6)
23 Disburse (6)

DOWN
1 Mistrusting person (7)
2 Oak seed (5)
3 Rough hut (5)
4 Confront (4)
5 Exercise session (4-3)
6 Long for (5)
13 Normal (7)

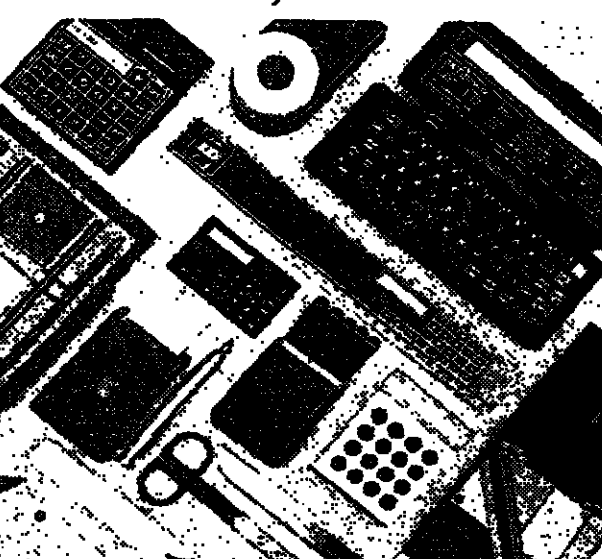
SOLUTION TO NO 1251
ACROSS: 1 Lapped 4 Browne 9 Panacea 10 Flesh 11 Ecu 12 Scar-
ter 14 Birlstone 18 Antwerp 19 Rile 22 Kodok 24 Expanse

DOWN: 1 Lope 2 Panic 3 Encounter 5 Ref 6 Wreslie 7 Exhaust
8 Passion Week 11 Ebb 13 Apocalypse 15 Abridge 16 Woe
17 Cackle 20 Loner 21 Feat 23 Keg

SATURDAY

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Home worker?

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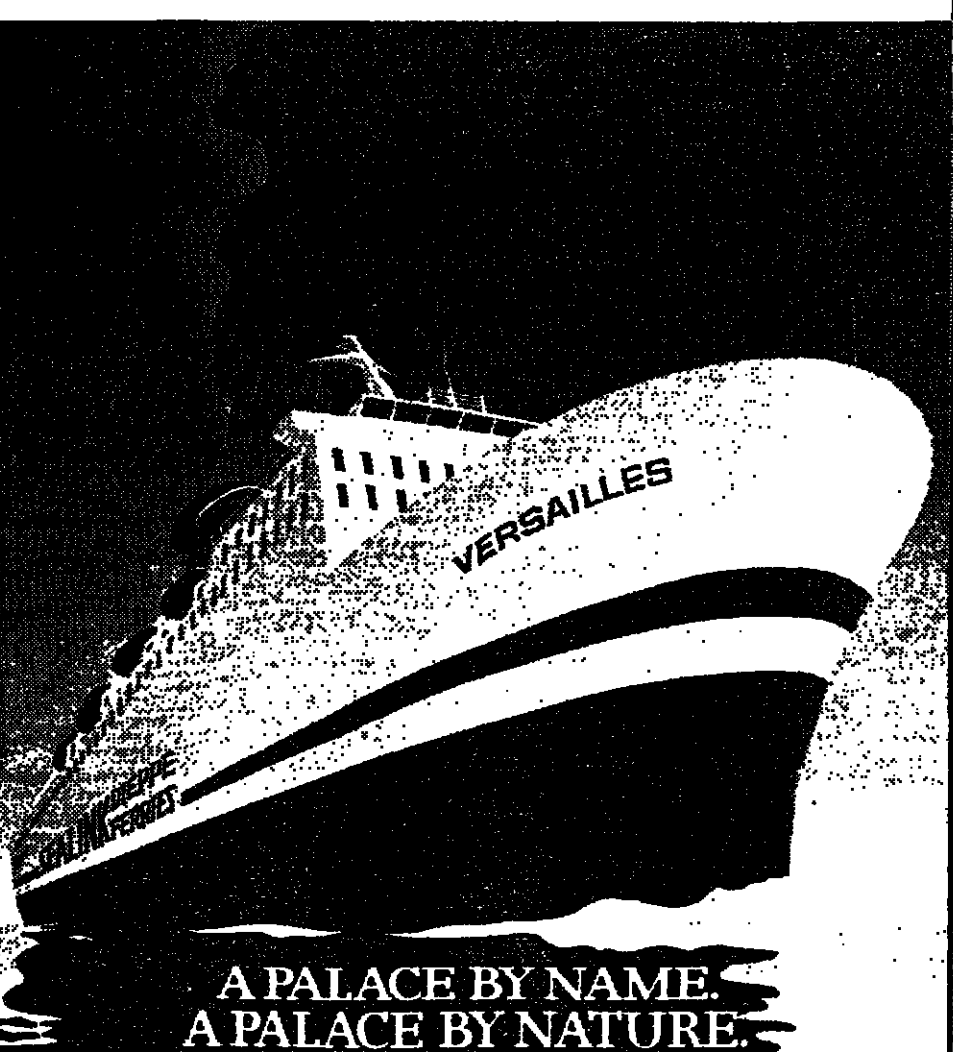
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FRIDAY PAGE

A sister's birth right?

An infertile woman can now bear a baby — with an egg donated by her sister. But opinion is divided on the ethics. Heather Kirby would have liked the chance to have her sister's child



Heather Kirby (right) and sister Joyce

would have been in a different emotional league to her giving me one of her fertile eggs, and the baby growing inside me, with my body nurturing it and giving it birth.

Professor Gordon Dunstan, Emeritus Professor of Moral Theology at London University, who is a member of the VLA, is said to be concerned about what happens as the baby grows up. He is quoted as saying, "Just envisage what could happen, say 15 years hence, in a range of potentially explosive relationships. Problems could arise in the uncertainty of adolescence when the child

I would rather have carried my sister's baby than any other woman's

is striving to establish a sense of identity. You could have a daughter for whom the mother could do no right, and an aunt who seemed to the girl bathed in pure light." I don't know how many children the professor has reared, but in my limited experience, teenagers often think their natural mother is a gorgon and father a tyrant.

At certain times in their lives, children might be delighted to learn that they are not likely to take after their parents. What they are surviving for is their own uniqueness. Children inevitably take after all sorts of relatives, from grandfathers to

cousins, and don't they often think that people other than their own parents are bathed in pure light? We always used to think that our Aunt Elsie was wonderful, but then she didn't have to sweat and slave, and make herself bankrupt into the bargain, to bring us up.

All the babies in our family (we were Nicholsons then) looked like Uncle George, which was tough on the girls. If I had had my sister's baby, and it was a girl, at least she would have had the chance of photographing like Grace Kelly, a blessing to which no offspring of mine could aspire. My sister now says that she would have felt guilty if this often-talked-about baby had inherited her cellulite or bad temper. But as I have those as well, I couldn't in all conscience have blamed her for it. Would she have interfered with the child's upbringing? I doubt it. My sister is not exactly Earth Mother. Nor can I imagine any normal sister fretting about how her niece or nephew is being reared, even if she did supply the egg, so long as the child is healthy and happy.

I resolved my own infertility problem by fostering, then adopting a son and daughter. They are both good-looking, intelligent and sweet-natured, which I wish I could say that they had inherited from me, or even from their Aunt Joyce. As Professor Dunstan predicts, they will probably have their identity crises in a few years' time, which, according to his philosophy, should be even more traumatic than the test-tube babies he is worrying about so unnecessarily.

If I had been able to have a baby, I would rather have carried my sister's than any other woman's on earth, not least because we share so many of the same faults. But I do think that the way children grow up and how they eventually turn out as adults has more to do with nurture than nature. But then I would say that, wouldn't I?

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For better or worse



BARBARA AMIEL

really did not go to the heart of the matter. The family and marriage were regarded as a union quite apart from the vagaries of infatuation, sexual satisfaction and emotional involvement. It is a very recent idea that a marriage lasts only as long as the sexual congress is pleasing to both partners. Or, as Channel 4's Dr Ruth put it in one of her early programmes: "Pauline, dear, you have a right to a very nice orgasm as well. You must tell him."

Once this idea of the primacy of sexual satisfaction takes hold, then a date with a campaign worker or a separate holiday in Italy become, as I suppose both Gary Hart and the Prince of Wales may have discovered, much more serious matters.

It is one thing to watch a spouse carrying on an affair when you know that a pleasing sexual encounter has only a transitory value. But once Dr Ruth's "good sex" becomes a building block of marriage, attitudes change.

In the past, an erring spouse had to put up with social opprobrium, professional disadvantages and even excommunication on divorce. But today, none of that applies. It has been said that society seems intent on making it easier to get divorced than married. That seems a bit far-fetched to me but certainly in the United States, where marriage requires all sorts of medical tests and paperwork, the two

procedures are beginning to run neck and neck.

The poor health of the institution of marriage seems to me to be directly related to the disproportionate week-end date or, indeed, the inflated concern about Harvey Proctor's alleged carryings-on. Now that we realize just how unwell the institution has become (with almost as many babies born out of wedlock as in) society seems to be reacting with a neurotic hypersensitivity. We are swaddling the invalid in all sorts of camphor-and-Vick towels. Every sexual peccadillo that might threaten marriage, women or children, is to be outlawed.

One doesn't have to look far for the new puritanism. For instance, only the worst kind of crank ever worried about inflaming latent paedophiles with Mothercare catalogues. Now, the sort of person who sees problems in photos of babies' plump thighs is on the government payroll, watching out for exploitation of children. At the same time, as I wrote last week, there is a concerted effort to make the definition of pornography ever broader to include social patterns that deviate from the norm of the two-parent family. The Sex Police are not remotely with us yet, but their scent is blowing in the wind.

I suppose it was all predictable. Permissiveness breeds reaction, history tells us, and we are paying the price for the easy couplings of the 1960s. The contemporary scourge of Aids is re-awakening sexual morality in a way that neither Calvin nor Luther resurrected could have done and people are questioning the ethics of their behaviour even if they are not translating this into action. Those of us who feel that family values are of primary importance to the human race and that they are the very values that protect us from the state, ought to be happy about all this. Except, I hear a drummer's tattoo in the distance and I do not think he beats for me.

No more Nightingales

From Joan Porteous, Little Orchard, Hayesfield Park, Bath

What sad reading was Sally Dugan's report on three British nurses who "defected" to Australia (April 27). One "had had a great time" but no longer wanted to spend "her life washing people". Another said people's continual demands were "very hard to take". The third now wants a career in horticulture. What would Florence Nightingale make of it all? Self-gratification everywhere seems the order of the day; no longer service to others. Medicine, nursing, teaching used to be described as vocational ca-

TALKBACK

reers. Things certainly are not what they used to be.

From Dr Rex Binning, Nicell's Avenue, Hove, Sussex

Clare Dyer in her article "Sterile arguments" (April 24) makes a plea that vasectomy is to be preferred as a method of family limitation on the grounds that it is a simpler operation with a smaller failure rate.

Though I do not contest these assumptions I would suggest that female sterilization with clips is a compar-

atively simple operation with a very small failure rate when performed by experienced operators. These are not the only considerations.

Clare Dyer correctly states that female sterilization with clips can be reversed with reasonable prospect of success. Reversal of vasectomy is more difficult and the success rate is far lower even in the most experienced hands.

Female sterilization may be likened to the placement of a lock gate in a canal that may be reopened in exceptional circumstances; male sterilization to the damming of a river that can only be removed with the greatest of difficulty.



Coping: Claire Wood, aged 11, looks after her parents, both wheelchair bound with cerebral palsy — "she cooks, irons, and washes, and does a lot more"

Children who care

"Young carers are sacrificing their childhoods to the care of another family member," said Sandra Leventon. "There would be uproar if we were to say that a group of 10,000 children were working shifts of eight or 10 hours a day and were having to work nights. Yet this job affects children psychologically, emotionally and physically, for life."

Sandra Leventon is vice-chairwoman of the Association of Carers, which has been campaigning for two years to bring the plight of children who look after disabled parents to public attention. The children themselves tend to be unaware that their lives are extraordinary; they

Disabled people with children may be thought to bear a heavier load than most. But it is often the children who really bear the burden, as Christine Webb reports

fall slowly into a tender trap whereby their workload grows in tandem with their own capabilities and the increasing disability of the parent.

Typically, they assume responsibilities beyond their years when one parent dies, or the marriage breaks down because the able-bodied spouse can no longer bear the burden. Then a child as young as 11 can face a punishing routine of rising early to wash,

dress and feed a mother before school.

School might be followed by shopping, cooking, washing up, and other chores. Many children have to lift a parent into a bath or shower, on and off the lavatory and in and out of bed, as well as getting up during the night to turn an immobile patient. Some children have suffered permanent brain injury as a result.

The burden varies according to the parent's disability, and the amount of local authority help. "Help is usually provided when a child's at school," said Judith Oliver, the association's president. "The most help I've ever heard of a family getting is four and a half hours a day. That leaves another 19½ hours a day when a child has to take its parent to the loo."

"Very often the help stops during the school holidays, precisely because the child is at home. I knew of one case where the local authority organizer told the mother she couldn't have more help, but on days when she couldn't cope she should keep her child home from school."

Claire Wood is 11 years old; she is the only able-bodied person at the family home in Pontypridd, South Wales. Her parents are both wheelchair-bound with cerebral palsy, and her emotionally-disturbed brother boards at a special school on weekdays. But Claire copes.

"It's not really a lot of work," said Claire, who is unwilling to be drawn on the amount she does at home. Her mother, Mrs Pat Wood, who is 41, explains: "She cooks, irons, and washes and does a lot more when we have bad days. The local authority have been very good to us, but as the children are getting older, they expect them to do more."

"Her life is different from normal children's. It comes out when she has her friends here to play. We heard her call a friend 'stupid' the other day because she could not do certain things Claire does."

Young carers are notorious for not identifying themselves, or asking for more help. Some fear they or their parents may be taken into care if they "make a fuss". And the children are statistically invisible precisely because of their age: people under 16 cannot register for carers' benefit, the main source for statistics.

The association's guess that 10,000 people under 18 years of age are carers has no

'I'm a bit tired sometimes. I can't be bothered to do things — but I've got to do them'

statistical foundation yet, but it is being borne out by a survey just conducted by Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council, Manchester. The survey estimates that there are 108 sole young carers under 18 in that borough alone.

Recent legislation places a duty on local authorities to take into account the ability of the carer to care. But critics say no extra resources have been supplied to implement this.

castle couple get a total of four hours a week home help, plus a twice-weekly visit from a care attendant to help Mrs Tame shower.

"I do most of the cooking and Hoover the house," said Sarah. "Mum gets her breakfast in the morning, then when I come home from school I wash the dishes, make mum a cup of tea, and start on the dinner."

"I'm a bit tired sometimes. I can't be bothered to do things, but I've got to do them. Sometimes it's hard to get time to do my homework, it depends on how much housework there is."

"Deep down, I know Sarah's missing out," said her mother. "I try not to let that happen, but I worry about what it's going to be like when she's older."

Worry, splits two ways. Davina Webster-Salter has helped manage her Truro home since she was 12, when her mother was paralysed from the waist down by a spinal injury. They get less than three hours help a week. Davina, now 16, is studying for her A levels, and spends break times and free periods catching up on homework.

"I'm forever telling mum not to get cold," said Davina. "One year we got snowed in. I went out for supplies, and when I got back she had hypothermia. Last winter she got bronchitis, pneumonia, pleurisy and mumps — all in one go."

Her mother, Rosalind, who is 41, said: "I worry about the strain this puts on Davina. If she was not living at home, I would obviously have to get daily help. They would have to do the shopping, help me dress, bath, clean — everything you can think of."

Davina added: "I need her and she needs me. But a lot of people expect you to manage. You try to go on. You smile, you always feel there's someone worse off. But you still get the pangs; you wish she was all right again."

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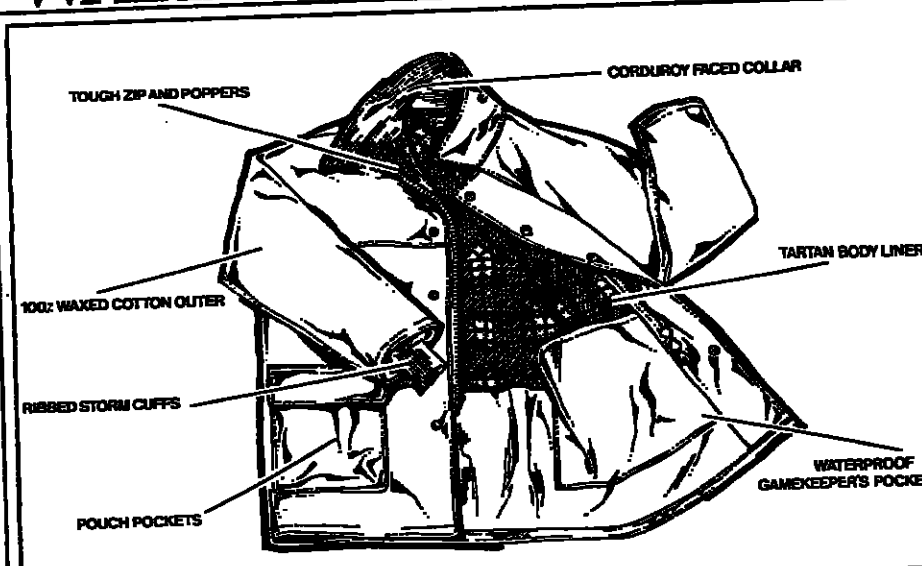
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■ Durham University Business School has started recruiting infant businesses for a new programme being launched at the university to help young businesses of one year old or less. The programme, called Firmstart, is aimed at helping start-up businesses through the crucial early months. It is being funded by the Manpower Services Commission so that the businesses pay nothing and up to £1,250 for market research may be available to each of those accepted.

The target are owner-managers to help develop and sharpen up a wide range of business skills, using a

practical approach through workshops, seminars and group work. It is designed for those with the potential to employ about 10 people, or achieve a turnover of £250,000, in the next three years.

John Taylor, the programme's director, says: "Before setting up a business, everything really is a mystery. During the first year owner-managers get a lot of experience and learn from that. But apart from learning where their strengths lie they also learn that they need more skills than they originally thought."

The programme is due to start in June, to be based over seven months. Places are limited.

.....

Power to join third party

de Franco v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis and Another

Before Lord Justice Lloyd and Lord Justice Gidwell

[Judgment May 7]
The court had jurisdiction under Order 15, rule 10A(2) of the Rules of the Supreme Court, on an application by a defendant in an action for wrongful interference with goods, to order that a person named in the application be joined as a defendant to the action with a view to establishing whether that person had, at the date of the alleged tort, a better right to the goods than the plaintiff, notwithstanding that at the date of the application that person no longer had any interest in the goods.

The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing appeals by the plaintiff, *de Franco*, and the third party, and second defendant, *Achilli Motors SpA*, from a judgment of the High Court in chambers on September 30, 1986, had allowed an appeal by the first defendant, the Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis, from the dismissal by Master Hodgson of his application under Order 15, rule 10A(2) for an order that the third party be joined as the second defendant.

Section 8(1) of the *Torts (Interference with Goods) Act 1977* provides: "The defendant in an action for wrongful interference shall be entitled to show, in accordance with rules of court, that a third party has a better right than the plaintiff as respects all or any part of the interest claimed by the plaintiff...."

Order 15, rule 10A(2) of the Rules of the Supreme Court provides: "A defendant to an action for wrongful interference with goods who desires to show that a third party has a better right than the plaintiff as respects all or any part of the interest claimed by the plaintiff may... apply for directions as to whether any person named in the application... should be joined with a view to establishing whether he has a better right than the plaintiff...."

Mr James Davis for Mr de Franco; Mr Selwyn Birch for *Achilli Motors*; Mr Gordon Bennett for the commissioner.

Breach of natural justice in appeal

Tudor v Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council

Before Lord Justice May and Mr Justice Roch

[Judgment May 7]

An allegation that a person was not a fit and proper person to hold a hackney carriage licence which was not opened by counsel for the council nor was evidence led in support of it, nor put to the applicant for the licence in cross-examination so that the applicant had no opportunity of answering or calling evidence in rebuttal did not satisfy the requirements of natural justice.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in allowing an appeal by way of case stated by Beryl Tudor against the dismissal by Mold Crown Court (Judge Daniel and two justices) of her appeal from the *Ellesmere Port and Neston Borough Council* who refused to grant her two hackney carriage licences.

Mr Andrew Edis for Mrs Tudor; Mr Mark Hedley for the council.

LORD JUSTICE MAY said on June 25, 1985 Mrs Tudor applied to the local authority for two hackney carriage licences. The application was refused on two grounds: that the hackney carriage licences concerned had already expired when the application was made and that in accordance with the council's policy the two licences had to be offered to the next two names on the official waiting list.

At the time the relevant statutory provision was the *Town Police Clauses Act 1847*.

On February 17, 1986 Mold Crown Court heard and dismissed the appeal. By the time of the appeal section 16 of the *Transport Act 1985* was in force. It provided:

Passenger penalized

Regina v Ashford and Tenterden Magistrates Court, Ex parte Wood

Before Lord Justice May and Mr Justice Roch

[Judgment May 5]

Magistrates did not err in imposing the statutory 10 penalty points on a driver who was found to be driving without due care and attention, being the driver of a car failing to stop after an accident and failing to provide a specimen.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in refusing to grant an order of *mandamus* to direct the justices to state a case for the opinion of the High Court.

Mr Stephen Shay for the defendant; the magistrates did not appear and were not represented.

MR JUSTICE ROCH said on July 1, 1986 the magistrates had heard four informations laid against the defendant which alleged driving while unfit through drink or drugs, driving without due care and attention, being the driver of a car failing to stop after an accident and failing to provide a specimen.

The defendant was acquitted of the first three charges but was convicted of the fourth. In the conviction only had to last, the prosecution was under a duty to show the defendant was under investigation for an offence under either sections 6 or 7 of

LORD JUSTICE LLOYD said that Mr de Franco had argued that since section 8 and Order 15, rule 10A(2) referred to showing whether a third party "has" a better right, the court had no jurisdiction to make an order under the rule where it was clear that, at the date of the application or its hearing the third party plainly had no interest in the goods at all, even though at the time of the alleged tort it claimed to have had such a right.

In his Lordship's judgment the commissioner was correct in his contention that it was sufficient to confer jurisdiction that at the time of the alleged tort the third party had a claim to an interest in the goods which the defendant contended was better than that of the plaintiff.

In the great majority of cases the position would be the same at the date of the hearing of the application as it was at the date of the alleged tort. This case was exceptional in that the police had delivered possession of the car which was the subject matter of the action to *Achilli Motors*, who had subsequently sold it, causing them no longer to have any interest in the car.

It did not require any great feat of construction to read "has" as referring to the date of the alleged wrongful interference.

Mr de Franco had further contended that the judge had been wrong to exercise his discretion to make the order because it was not necessary for *Achilli* to be joined as a defendant in order for the commissioner to be able to rely on the defence under section 8(1).

The master had apparently taken the view that such joinder was necessary if the section 8(1) defence was to be relied on. The court had not heard full argument on the point, and it was not necessary to decide it, but his Lordship was inclined to the view that the master was probably right on that point.

There was no ground on which the court could interfere with the judge's exercise of his discretion, and the appeal would be dismissed.

Lord Justice Gidwell delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: Proctor Gillett; Baker & McKenzie; Solicitor, Metropolitan Police.

"The provisions of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 with respect to hackney carriages... shall have the effect... (a) as if in section 37, the words 'such number of' and 'as they think fit' were omitted; and (b) as if they provided that the grant of a licence may be refused, for the purpose of limiting the number of hackney carriages in respect of which licences are granted, if, but only if, the person authorized to grant licences is satisfied that there is no significant demand for the services of hackney carriages... which is unmet."

Consequently, the grounds relied on by the council in the first instance were no longer available to them. In the event, the crown court dismissed her appeal on the following two grounds: that Mrs Tudor had failed to establish ownership of the two vehicles and the court was satisfied she was not a fit and proper person to hold a licence.

The suggestion that Mrs Tudor was not a fit and proper person only emerged during the course of the final speech made on behalf of the council.

His Lordship found in the light of decisions such as *R v Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Ex parte Hook* ([1976] 1 WLR 1052) the requirements of natural justice and not been complied with.

On that ground alone it was clear the crown court's decision could not stand and the appeal would be remitted to a differently constituted court for a rehearing.

Mr Justice Roch agreed.

Solicitors: Silverbeck & Co, Liverpool; Mr J. B. Bickerton, South Wirral.

the 1972 Act, as substituted; it was not necessary to show he was driving.

The defendant was fined £120 and 10 penalty points were endorsed on his driving licence. The defendant argued that the fact he was not driving as a matter of law constituted a special reason. To that end he relied on two authorities: *McCormick v Hutchinson* (The Times, October 10, 1985) and *Burnard v Hayes* ([1985] RTR 348).

However, it was apparent from the affidavits sworn by the chairman of the justices that they found the circumstances of the instant case could amount to a special reason but found even if they did that the justices still had a discretion whether or not to order endorsement.

His Lordship said that section 101(2) of the 1972 Act made it clear that the justices were correct in that view. It was also clear from *McCormick's* case that there was still a discretion whether or not to endorse.

Furthermore, the fact in the instant case that the defendant was not driving only because he was so dissuaded by a friend alleged driving while unfit through drink or drugs, driving without due care and attention, being the driver of a car failing to stop after an accident and failing to provide a specimen.

The defendant was acquitted of the first three charges but was convicted of the fourth. In the conviction only had to last, the prosecution was under a duty to show the defendant was under investigation for an offence under either sections 6 or 7 of

Challenge to calculation of anti-dumping duty fails

Nippon Seiko v Council of the European Communities (supported by Commission of the European Communities and the Federation of European Bearing Manufacturers Associations, interveners)
Case 258/84

Before Y. Galmot, President of the Fifth Chamber and Judges A. Schockweiler, U. Everling, R. Jolie and J.C. Moitinho de Almeida

Advocate General G.M. Mancini
(Opinion December 11, 1987)
(Judgment May 7)

The rules for the calculation of a dumping margin did not impose any obligation that the methods chosen for calculating the normal value and the export price should be similar or identical.

The applicant sought a declaration that Council Regulation No 2089/84 of July 19, 1984 imposing a definitive anti-dumping duty on imports of ball bearings with a greatest external diameter of not more than 30 millimetres originating in Japan and Singapore (OJ 1984 No L 193/1) was void in so far as it affected the applicant.

Under article 2(2) and (3)(a) of Council Regulation No 3017/79 of December 20, 1979 on protection against dumped or subsidised imports from countries not members of the EEC (OJ 1979 No L 339/1) a product was considered to have been dumped if its export price to the Community was less than the normal value of the like product, that is to say the price paid in the ordinary course of trade for the like product intended for consumption in the exporting country.

Article 2(13)(a) of the Regula-

tion stated that the dumping margin meant "the amount by which the normal value exceeds the export price".

Article 2(13)(b) of Regulation No 3017/79 provided that "where prices vary, the dumping margin may be established on a transaction-by-transaction basis or by reference to the most frequently occurring, representative or weighted average prices"; and according to article 2(13)(c), "where dumping margins vary, weighted averages may be established".

Article 2(9) of Regulation No 3017/79 provided: "For the purposes of a fair comparison, the export price and the normal value shall be on a comparable basis as regards physical characteristics of the product, quantities and conditions and terms of sale".

In its judgment the Court of Justice of the European Communities (Fifth Chamber) held:

It was clear from the preamble to the contested Regulation that in the present case the dumping margin had been determined by comparing the normal value calculated on the basis of the weighted average method and the export price calculated according to the transaction-by-transaction method.

Difference in methods used for calculating normal value and export price according to the applicant, the possibility of choosing between various methods of calculating the dumping margin specified in article 2(13) of Regulation No 3017/79 had to be reconciled with article 2(9) of the Regulation, which required that the normal value and the export price should be calculated according to the same

methods so that a fair comparison might be made.

The provisions for calculating the normal value and the export price separately specified several different methods for calculating each of the terms of the comparison. However article 2(13)(b) and (c) of Regulation No 3017/79, merely stated the various possibilities for calculating the dumping margin without imposing any obligation that the methods chosen for calculating the normal value and the export price should be similar or identical.

It was clear from article 2(9) that the adjustments which it provided for related exclusively to differences found to exist as between the domestic market and the export market in the physical characteristics and quantities of products, in conditions and terms of sale and in the level of trade.

Contrary to what the applicant maintained, it followed that article 2(9) of the Regulation did not require the normal value and the export price to be calculated according to the same method.

In equity of method for calculating export price, the applicant claimed that the result of the transaction-by-transaction method of assessing the export price applied by the contested regulation was that only sales at dumping prices were taken into account, while those at prices above the normal value were disregarded. The applicant considered that the method adopted therefore inevitably led to a finding of dumping and to the establishment of a dumping margin which had no connection with reality.

Such a line of argument could not be accepted. The transaction-by-transaction method did not exclude from the calculation of the dumping margin transactions at prices above the normal value. It merely artificially reduced such prices to the level of the normal value but included them in the calculation of the weighted average of all the prices charged on the export market.

The transaction-by-transaction method was the only method capable of dealing with certain manoeuvres in which dumping was disguised by practising different prices, some above the normal value and some below it.

The application of the weighted average method in such a situation would not meet the purpose of the anti-dumping proceeding since that method would in essence mask sales at dumping prices by those as what were known as "negative" dumping prices, and would thus in no way eliminate the injury suffered by the Community industry concerned.

It had therefore to be accepted that the Commission had not in this case committed any manifest error in its appraisal of the facts by applying the transaction-by-transaction method in order to calculate the dumping margin.

Different adjustments made to normal value and export price the applicant claimed that the normal value and the export price had not been established on a comparable basis since, contrary to article 2(9) of Regulation No 3017/79, the adjustments made to them were not the same.

Thus when the export price

was constructed all the expenses of its European subsidiaries were deducted, whereas only some of the corresponding expenses incurred on the Japanese market were deducted from the normal value, resulting in the over-estimation of the normal value and thus of the dumping margin.

Under article 2(8)(b) of Regulation No 3017/79, the export price was established according to a constructed value where the price agreed for the sale in particular where, as here, the transactions were effected by parties which were associated or connected by a compensatory agreement.

The export price was then constructed on the basis of the price at which the imported product was first re-sold to an independent buyer or on any reasonable basis. In such a case, allowance was made for "all costs incurred between importation and re-sale".

On the basis of article 2(10)(c) the applicant claimed that the various expenses deducted from the export price should also have been deducted from the normal value.

In that regard it was to be noted that the allowances made under article 2(10)(c) were different, as regards both their purpose and the conditions in which they were applied, from the allowances made in the construction of the export price.

Whereas the latter allowances were intended to determine the export price which corresponded to normal trading conditions, the allowances made under article 2(10) were intended to rectify the export price or the normal value already

calculated pursuant to the rules laid down in article 2(3) to (7) and (8).

The allowances provided for by article 2(10) were made by reference to objective factors enumerated in particular in subparagraph (c), those factors corresponded to the particular features of each market (domestic and export) and had a varying impact on conditions and terms of sale, thus affecting price comparability.

Moreover, whereas adjustments required for the purpose of constructing the export price were made automatically by the Community institutions pursuant to the provisions of article 2(8) of Regulation No 3017/79, the adjustments provided for by article 2(10) might also be made on a claim by an interested party.

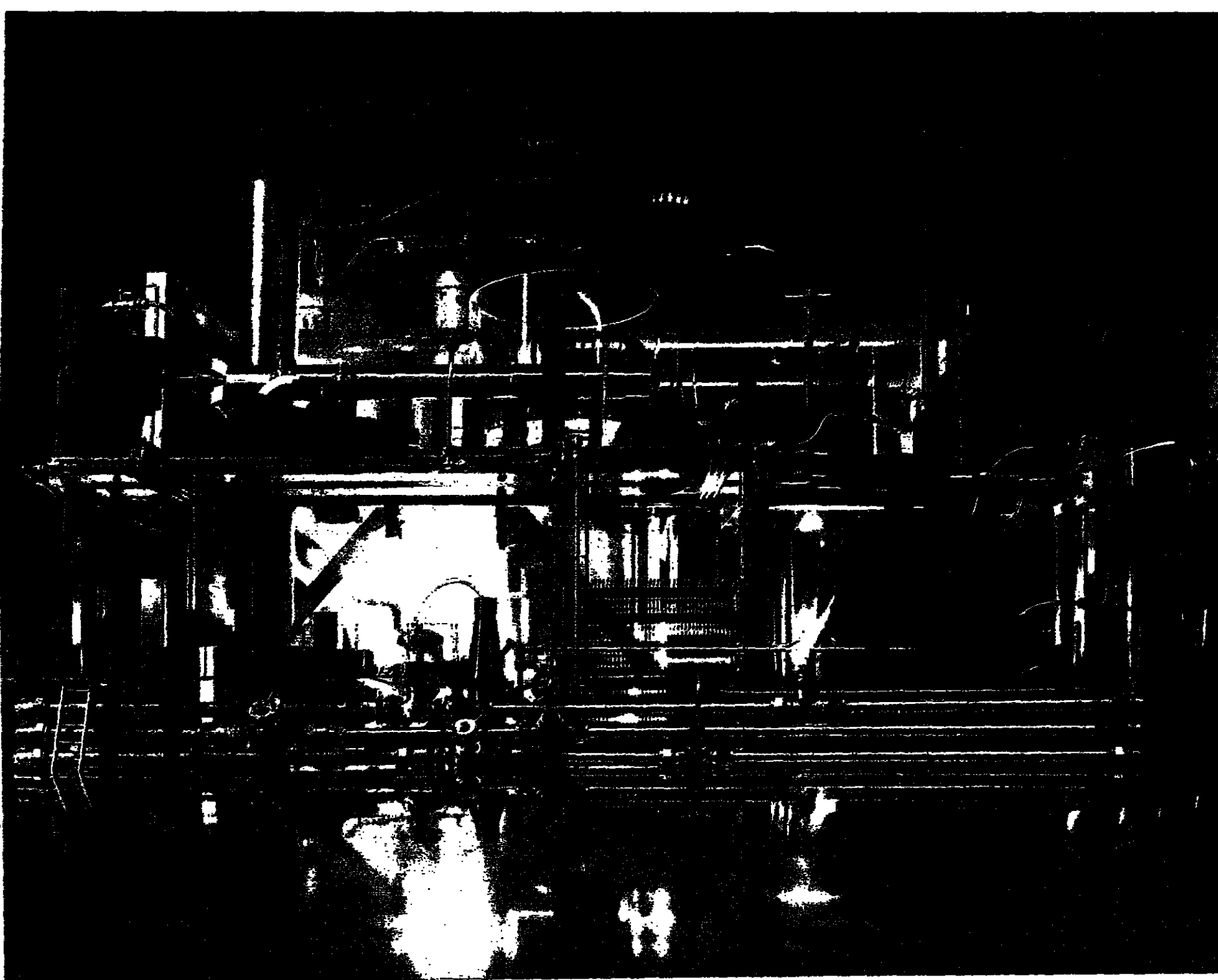
It did not appear, either from the documents before the court, or from the oral arguments presented at the hearing, that the applicant had adduced evidence to show that its claim for adjustments under article 2(10)(c) of Regulation No 3017/79 satisfied the conditions required by those provisions.

On those grounds, *inter alia*, the European Court of Justice (Fifth Chamber):

1. Dismissed the application;

2. Ordered the applicant to pay the costs, including those incurred by the interveners.

The Court delivered judgments in similar terms, *mutatis mutandis*, in Cases 240/84, *NTN Toyo Bearing Company Ltd v Council*; 253/84 *Nachi Fujikoshi Corporation v Council*; 256/84 *Koyo Seiko Ltd v Council* and 260/84 *Minebea v Council*.



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THE TIMES DIARY

Staying power

Members of the House of Lords are beginning to twitch at the prospect of the Lord Chancellor remaining firmly on the Woolsack after the next election. It had been assumed that by then Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, 80 this year, would be ready to move from his self-proclaimed bed of nails — he has held the post for a total of 12 years. But the possibility that Hailsham could take advantage of the tradition that the Lord Chancellor may remain longer than other cabinet ministers has worried senior Tories, who fear that he will obstruct any radical measures. Mrs Thatcher, on the other hand, is keen to persuade Lord Whitelaw to remain as Tory leader, in the upper house, as his obvious successor, Lord Young, is to stay on as Employment Secretary.

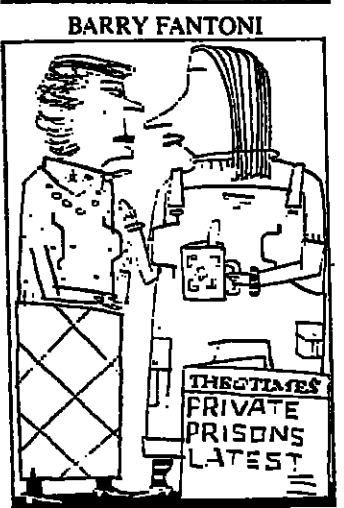
Indefensible

Labour's insatiable appetite for publicly parading its defence split knows no bounds. In tonight's debate at the Oxford Union the Labour MP for Dudley East, John Gilbert, had agreed to oppose Ken Livingstone's demands for a non-nuclear defence policy. At the sparring match was not to be as Livingstone excused himself at the eleventh hour to attend a Labour strategy meeting. With Livingstone gone, Gilbert also withdrew from the fray. His reason? A spokesman for the Union says he had no wish to speak unless he was opposing a representative of his own party.

Carpeted

Sir Patrick Wright, permanent secretary at the Foreign Office, has been taken to task by the foreign affairs committee over a £15,000 red carpet for VIPs. Under questioning from MPs when he was explaining the spending of £2.85 million by the FO through an unforeseen contingency fund, Wright, a Kojak lookalike, said it was misleading to suggest the carpet itself cost £15,000. "The material cost £2,000 and the remainder was spent on a trailer to take the all-purpose carpet round three airports, Heathrow, Gatwick and Northolt, and for improved fittings," said Ivan Lawrence, QC and Tory MP for Burton, gave Wright a tip: "You could have saved some cost by buying it from Allied Carpets, who make the first fitting free."

George Howarth, Labour's MP for Knowsley North, will find himself in trouble unless he sorts out who's who in Parliament. The leader of the Liberal Party has received a missive from Howarth addressed: "David Steele (sic) MP, leader of the opposition."



Happy holiday

Summer always brings a round of mean and miserable travel experiences but a Suffolk publican and his wife devised a unusual twist to holiday insurance clauses. David Hooper paid £3,500 for a holiday in Kenya last January. But when the Hoopers' aircraft was forced to re-land at Heathrow after developing under-carriage problems, the passengers were booked into a London hotel and set off again 24 hours later. On claiming compensation for their lost night the Hoopers were denied a £40 per person award because there was a get-out clause in their travel insurance bought through Kuoni, the holiday company. If a flight leaves on schedule but is forced to land elsewhere or is diverted, travellers cannot claim for lost time. The Hoopers did, however, receive a £28 refund from Kuoni for one night's stay for two at the Kenyan hotel, and yesterday the company increased this to £40 each after the insurance company, Norwich Union, refused to reconsider its payment and stuck to the terms of its policy.

Greenland

Graham C Groene and Tom Mascher, directors of Chatto, Bodley Head and Jonathan Cape, had a new boss last night as Random House took over the British publisher at the centre of a wrangle over management with the American company, which is part of Newhouse, owner of Condé Nast, struck the deal with Chatto. After months of speculation, two former directors of Random House will join the British board while John and Mascher go on to the American one.

PHS

The idea of having a national state lottery in Britain has cropped up more than once in the past 20 years. Roy Jenkins started the Commons in his first Budget speech by proposing one, and I myself gave evidence in favour to the Royal Commission on Gambling in 1978. Yesterday's report in *The Times* that some ministers support a lottery is encouraging for those of us who have long believed there is a strong case for this untapped source of non-governmental finance.

A lottery would provide money to help in many areas of social need on a scale far beyond that which government can provide from taxation. And it could be simply and speedily set up and run by a National Lottery Foundation.

Its function would be to bridge the gap between public funds and private philanthropy in those many areas of national life (the arts, sport, our cultural and architectural heritage, research, experimental projects) where additional expenditure is, in Mr Jenkins's phrase, "desirable but not essential".

If the possibilities are bold and imaginatively appreciated, a lottery foundation could rival and surpass in creative munificence the great philanthropic foundations — Carnegie, Rockefeller, Nuffield, Ford, Gulbenkian.

The foundation, administered by a board of trustees appointed by the Crown on the advice of the prime minister, would be independent of government and of politics. It would publish regular

How to win a Gulbenkian in a lottery

by Robin Day

accounts for public and parliamentary scrutiny, but it would not be subject to Treasury or ministerial control.

The great advantage of lottery revenue is that it is raised by voluntary participation. Nobody who disapproves of the lottery principle, or of the purposes for which the foundation would distribute funds, need have anything to do with it.

Subject to legislative guidelines and safeguards in the establishing Act, the foundation would be left to run its own show, including the selling of tickets, the distribution of funds, and the value of prizes. The top prizes would have to be attractive — £50,000 at least.

Estimates of lottery income can only be guesswork. Imagine 25 lottery draws a year; and tickets at £1 each. A conservative estimate of revenue from ticket sales among 40 million United Kingdom adults (not to mention

tourists) would be anything from £100m to £500m a year. Foreign experience, however, suggests a much larger income.

Objections to such a proposal may come from those with vested interests in promoting a commercially operated lottery system for private profit, like the football pools. But that kind of lottery would not become the instrument for public good which I envisage.

The Treasury, of course, might prefer a commercially operated lottery because of the opportunity for taxing the profits. Even a publicly administered lottery might be seen as a source of further tax revenue. It is essential that the Treasury's checking palm should be kept out of the till.

It would be reasonable, however, for the Exchequer to impose a small initial ticket levy, which could cover a government loan to launch the foundation. Other objections will include

the possible loss of tax revenue from the pools, if competition from a national lottery damaged their profits. It is likely, however, that the pools will continue to command a strong loyalty, especially among the vast football-loving public. In any event, are there not millions of people who do not do the football pools for one reason or another, and who might like to buy a lottery ticket?

The predictable "moral" objections will be raised. But we already have one kind of national lottery (premium bonds) for the virtuous purpose of encouraging saving. It can be argued that there is no lottery in premium bonds because the bond buyer never forfeits his stake. Nevertheless, he is gambling to the extent of giving up the certainty of interest from other forms of savings.

Premium bonds have come to be regarded under all governments as a highly respectable success, despite the instant condemnation of them as a "squalid raffle" by Harold Wilson.

Why should not the national gambling urge be further harnessed for such constructive purposes as helping our Olympic training, the National Theatre, or medical research? As a public but non-governmental source of finance a national lottery, run by an independent foundation, would greatly enrich the national life. It would be hugely popular into the bargain.

The author is presenter of the BBC's *Question Time* and *The World at One*.

John Rae

Shooting the piano tuner

When I became a headmaster, I was told, "Westminster does not need knocking about; it's a piano that needs fine tuning." The same cannot be said of the public sector of education at the present time. Politicians who argue that all that is needed is some fine tuning will fail the pupils and the parents. What I look for as the election approaches is not which party will bring peace to our schools but which has the political will to take on the vested interests in education and win.

I take a simple view of the aim of education: it is to provide an equally good opportunity for all children to develop their potential. But almost all the educational reform since the war has tended to perpetuate the inequality of opportunity that divides our society and wastes so much of its talent. In some parts of the country, a working-class child has less chance of leaving school literate and numerate than he would have done in 1945. Not surprisingly, the proportion of working-class pupils entering university is the same now as in the Thirties. Equality of opportunity in Britain remains a mirage.

"What I can't stand about that fellow Rae," they used to say, "is the way he goes on about equality of opportunity yet remains headmaster of one of the most privileged independent schools." They missed the point. Independent schools do not perpetuate inequality of opportunity, they throw it into sharp relief. The Labour Party has huffed and puffed about "the privileged sector", without ever having enough wind to blow the house down, because throwing the blame on independent schools was a way of distracting attention from the fact that it was Labour's own educational policies that were betraying children's interests.

Labour supported educational theories that condemned anything that smacked of "middle-class values". Academic achievement (indeed any sort of achievement), competition, homework, streaming, even ambition itself, were regarded by egalitarians as ideologically unsound. As Roy Hattersley explained, equality was to replace equality of opportunity as the goal of Labour's educational policy.

From the point of view of the schoolchildren, that change in Labour's policy was disastrous. Labour's answer to lack of opportunity was to make sure it applied to everyone.

The egalitarians had many passive collaborators across the political spectrum. With a few notable exceptions such as Tom Howarth of St Paul's, the heads of independent schools, including myself, failed to speak out against progressive ideas we knew to be wrong. We argued that it was politically inopportune to knock the public sector.

The consequences of egalitarianism in education are familiar. In the Sixties the reformers told us that education must become child-centred. By one of those ironies so characteristic of educational change, the opposite has occurred. Education has become teacher

centred. The interests of the children and the interests of the teachers are now often in conflict. So many of the things that divert children from the main task, such as creative writing and peace studies, are there for the benefit of the teachers not the children. The children want qualifications; many teachers dismiss the pursuit of exam results as divisive.

In a leading London comprehensive last year, only 17 pupils out of a year group of 200 obtained five O levels, the passport to many jobs. Down the road at an independent school, the same age group were collecting all the O levels they needed on their way to a good university and a well paid career. Who is responsible for that unequal start in life — the teachers in the independent school or the teachers in the comprehensive school?

Equality of opportunity will never be achieved until the tyranny of egalitarianism is overthrown. That is why fine tuning is not enough. The public sector of education needs to be knocked about until the interests of children again take precedence over the interests of teachers. The party that convinces the electorate that it is determined to do this will deserve to win many votes.

The Labour Party has surely ruled itself out for good as the champion of equality of opportunity. Neil Kinnock and Roy Hattersley have both been Labour spokesmen for education. No last-minute rush down the road to Damascus can save them from the accusation that the policies they supported blighted the hopes of thousands of children.

The Alliance policy for education — and here as a founder member of the SDP I declare an interest — offers a vision of what our education system could become, a programme that would "make Britain the best educated and trained nation in the world". But it has, I think, an important weakness: nowhere is it even by implication critical of teachers. Reluctantly, I conclude that it is a good policy for the next election but one.

The truth is that if I believe in equality of opportunity, and that it is egalitarianism, not privilege, that denies that opportunity to so many children, I am bound to put my faith in Kenneth Baker. He is the only possible secretary of state for education who has the political will to defeat the egalitarians.

I do not like all his policies. But where it matters, in his measures to force the education service to put the interests of children and parents before those of teachers and theorists, he has got it right. Forget the high-flutin ideas about building a better society and ensuring peace in the world. What parents want to know is that their child can walk into a classroom anywhere in the country and find good discipline and good teaching. That is the point Mr Baker has grasped more firmly than any of his political opponents.

The author, formerly headmaster of Westminster School, is now Director of the Laura Ashley Foundation.

Henry Stanhope

'Twixt Brechin and paradise

We heard the news last Saturday, crouched round the set as in the dark days of the war, our ears strained for the sound of distant victory.

Then we opened some champagne to celebrate. Not the real stuff you must understand, more blanc de blancs than Bollinger — but bubbling nonetheless with *joie de vivre*. Derby County had been promoted to the first division.

Some people play football, others still watch it, while the rest of us just listen to the results — drawn to BBC1 at ten minutes to five by some cosmic force we hardly understand.

It seems a long time since I last ran through the green grass in a pair of baggy shorts and boots like an elephant's hoof, in pursuit of a second and muddy ball.

It is also 40 years since I first went to see Derby County, travelling through the Midlands with a young heart full of hope and a satchel crammed with crisps and fishpaste sandwiches. They lost that day — an occasion which I described some time ago in this newspaper, and we trailed glumly home to rural Wales, as the English must have trudged back after Bannockburn.

On the second and last time I watched them, I took my young son to Loftus Road and saw his eyes, as big as saucers, drinking in the colour and magic of it all — the soaring terraces and cavernous stands. They lost that day too, to Queens Park Rangers; at which point I decided they were better off without me.

They have certainly not looked back since. My relationship with our so-called national game in recent years has been for the most part vicarious. But this is not to deny its closeness or intensity.

The classified results on Saturday nights have had no more devoted a follower than me. By courtesy of the BBC World Service I have heard them in all kinds of places and at all times. They have indeed connected me to Britain more quickly than any aircraft and more colourfully than

any phone. No sound to the distant traveller is more redolent of home.

I have listened beside the pool in Singapore, with the frangipani blooming and the ice cubes tinkling in the soda and fresh lime. To hear "Hamilton Academicals I St Mirren 0" above the trilling of cicadas and bird song is to know the true meaning of travel.

To stand among the mountains of Oman, high above the burgeoning commerce of Salalah, and be told in the unemotional tones of the BBC that Burnley have drawn with Rochdale (or whoever) in a match marred by gale-force winds and driving rain is to see the world in what one knows to be the right perspective.

In North and South America, in Africa and India, the scores get through. On the beaches of Cocosnaba, where aspiring Peles on bare brown feet dance through opposing defences on the sand, I have seen grown Englishmen grapple for newspapers four days old and turn to that bewitching page just to see how Blackpool fared or Bolton failed. Such is the stuff that schoolboy dreams are made of.

Once, while staying in a pine forest deep in Sweden, I was able to pick up the faint words of comfort from Bush House only by standing on the balcony of my room, the radio held aloft towards the stars. Still, there in the steadily falling rain the words came through, faint but unmistakable, above the rattling dishes of the restaurant below. Queen of the South 0 Brechin 0 (or it might have been the other way round). I am not at all sure where Brechin is, still less Queen of the South. But they sounded wonderful places on that balcony far from home.

On Norwegian fjords, by the Suez Canal, on military manoeuvres or Her Majesty's destroyers, I have heard those beguiling scores, aside their theses, ship's captains stethoscopes from their ears in order to hear them too. We are in truth a very sporting nation.

Michael Evans

John Hoskyns records an era of economic folly that Britain forgets

The world we left behind

Memories are short and many people seem to have forgotten how the chaos of public policy during the 1960s and 1970s affected their lives. To jog those memories I have unearthed some contemporary notes I made and offer these four vignettes of economic life at the time.

Fine tuning the economy
Government expenditure plans were repeatedly altered in the five years 1971-76. In the January 1971 White Paper the Conservatives cut £1,072 million from the programme they had inherited from Labour; the November 1971 White Paper promptly restored £689 million; the December 1972 White Paper added another £843 million; in May 1973 the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced cuts of £681 million, only for the December White Paper to add another £392 million; hardly had this been published than cuts of £1,263 million were announced, which were however more than counterbalanced by £1,545 million increases introduced by the incoming Labour government. No sooner had the 1975 White Paper come out, than the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced some modest increases in the expenditure plans for 1975/76 and £900 million cuts in the projection for 1976/77. (See *Social Policy and Public Expenditure 1975: Inflation and Priorities*, Centre for Studies in Social Policy).

Taxation
In April 1975 Denis Healey raised VAT from 10 per cent to 25 per cent on items which were considered luxuries, while reducing it to 8 per cent for the rest. Some of the consequences: batteries for torches carried the 8 per cent; batteries for radios 25 per cent; silver carried 25 per cent; silver plate 8 per cent, which also applied to the purchase price on antiques of less than 100 years old, but only to the profit on older items; a plug fitted to an iron rated 25 per cent, but when sold direct was charged at 8 per cent. There was no VAT on engine oils and brake fluid, but 25 per cent on battery chargers.

For some luxury items, the overnight price increase of nearly 14 per cent was disastrous. Deliveries of colour television sets for the month of January 1976 were 40 per cent down on the previous year; for the whole of 1975 28 per cent down on the previous year. In a television programme on January 11, 1976, Lord Bowden said that there had already been 47 changes in the regulation about the hire purchase of television sets since the war.

The rules on investment grants and allowances to influence industry's investment behaviour were changed 16 times between 1951 and 1976, an average of one change every 19 months.

In France, Germany, the United States and Canada, the top mar-



ginal tax rates in 1977 were 45 to 60 per cent. For Britain the top rate was 83 per cent, and 98 per cent for investment income. Dividends had already dropped from 4 per cent to 2 per cent of all personal income over the period 1963-74 and in the decade to 1973 had fallen by a fifth in real terms, while every other kind of income rose.

Controls
Incomes policy, social contracts, price controls, dividend controls, exchange controls were all intermittently in force throughout the Seventies.

The Heath government's price code and associated "profit reference levels" put direct pressures on companies to marginally useful expenditure, in order to ensure that they did not make too much profit, which would only have to be passed back to their customers in lower prices.

In a review of a CBI survey of the price code's impact, in the *Financial Times* of April 15, 1976, Samuel Brittan quoted the following examples. In one company, the impact of the code transformed an estimated £1 million of profit on an investment proposal into a £300,000 loss so that the project had to be abandoned.

Another company had planned to save fuel and improve heat insulation with annual savings of £100,000 on an expenditure of

only £170,000. But the company alleged that, under Article 21 of the price code, the net reduction in costs would have to be passed on, and the project would therefore not be worth the effort to over-worked management.

Yet another company, which had been granted a loan for capital investment under the 1970 Industry Act, found that the increased margins forecast (which were a condition of the government loan) were now disallowed under the code.

Trade unions
In the winter of 1977, members of the Transport and General Workers' Union physically blocked the rail lines to the new British container depot at Didcot, to prevent trains from delivering cars. The union's committee had been instructed two and a half years earlier by the union branch to close Didcot.

The Southampton dockers' own paper said: "We have to admit it was the best decision we've seen, but we had a job to do and that was to close it." They visited every agent using Didcot and said that if they did not switch exclusively to Southampton, they would never get another container through Southampton or other unionised docks. (*Daily Telegraph*, January 13, 1978).

The Confederation of Health

Service Employers' annual conference rejected a resolution calling on the TUC to formulate a code of practice in relation to "trade union action which might adversely affect the well-being of the patients". A union official commented that "the patients are not our main concern".

The *Times* pensions specialist, writing in *Business News* on February 28, 1977, said: "A week or so ago I had the daunting experience of being told by the pensions experts from two or three unions that I should not be writing about pensions because I was not an experienced labour reporter. Their argument was that only someone who understood the whole procedure of collective bargaining and who understood how trade unions operated was really qualified today to write about pensions, now that the subject had entered the province of the unions."

In those far-off days of collective madness, these theories, attitudes and events seemed quite normal, inevitable and not particularly "extreme". It required considerable effort to explain why they were wrong and had to be resisted. Today, at long last, no further explanation is needed. Their absurdity speaks for itself.

The author is Director-General of the Institute of Directors.

MI5's endless corridors of silence

To function properly, MI5 has to remain secret and independent of the government. The relationship between MI5's director-general, the Home Secretary and the Prime Minister can be summed up briefly: ministers are told only what they need to know.

Mrs Thatcher has told Parliament that the present director-general of MI5 carried out a four-month "thorough investigation" into Peter Wright's allegations that 30 of his fellow officers attempted to undermine or topple the Wilson government. The inquiry found no evidence to support the conspiracy theory.

However, Mrs Thatcher's decision to rest her case on a brief summary of the director-general's findings highlights a dilemma facing all governments.

Like her predecessors, Mrs Thatcher is not allowed to know the intimate details of MI5 undercover work, and if she did find out, she might be seriously embarrassed. The less you know, the less you have to reveal under question-

ing in the House of Commons. No prime minister knows or understands the nuts and bolts of the security service. Neither do home secretaries, who are responsible for MI5: nor foreign secretaries, responsible for the espionage service, MI6, and the eavesdropping station, GCHQ.

Both MI5 and MI6 are trusted to carry out their work without accounting to anyone. Even if a special parliamentary or privy councillor committee were set up to oversee the intelligence services, it would be difficult to gauge exactly where their duties lie.

For even the director-general of MI5 does not know everything that goes on inside his department. He sets the broad guidelines but it is up to his subordinate officers exactly how they get their information.

Like all other intelligence services, MI5 uses "freelance" operatives to do certain jobs, partly because it is often important to have what are known as "cut outs" — people who cannot

be directly linked to the security service — to hold responsible should something go wrong.

The key figures linking MI5 with the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary are Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, and Sir Brian Cubbon, the Permanent Secretary at the Home Office. But they could not be held responsible for MI5 matters, because they could never exercise adequate supervision. Nor would they be told any secrets about the personal habits of ministers or politicians unless they had a direct bearing on security.

Just as a junior member will know only what affects his duties, so the director-general will normally know the results only of operations that have followed his guidelines. The director-general would be aware, through the advice of Armstrong and Cubbon, of the government's general area of concern as regards security matters.

But, as history has shown, not everything works according to

سكنا من الاصل



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MR BOTHA'S COSTLY VICTORY

South Africa's white voters have cast a vote for fear, — placing their future in jeopardy. The massive swing to the right, recorded in Wednesday's poll, which benefited both the ruling National Party and the extreme right wing Conservative Party at the expense of the Liberal Progressive Party, will be interpreted by black South Africans as a resounding rejection of even their most moderate aspirations.

Black attitudes will harden, and those whites who were waiting until the results came in before they packed their bags can now be expected to join the growing exodus of the country's finest.

On every count this week's election result was a vote for further polarisation, isolation and impoverishment. The African National Congress (ANC) hierarchy in Lusaka knows better than anyone else that while reform and black moderation are far more important enemies of its revolutionary goals than South Africa's security forces. It will have reason to share President Botha's celebratory bottle of champagne today.

One victim on whose grave they will doubtless dance is the Kwanatal constitutional proposals. The collapse of the English speaking liberal vote in Natal and its flight to the National Party may have been induced by a skilful National Party campaign which sought to portray the Progressive Federal Party as soft on the ANC, but it will certainly be interpreted by both the Kwanatal chief architect, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, and by President Botha, as a massive

rejection by whites of real power sharing in the province.

Has Mr Botha much cause for celebration, however, or is he too a victim of his own success? The South African president won this election and increased his party's majority by unashamedly playing up the security fears of the electorate.

A resurgence of black unrest and some well timed land mines provided additional sound effects for a campaign which cast the ANC as the government's main opponent, thereby adding immeasurably to the stature among blacks of Mr Oliver Tambo and his associates. But Mr Botha has always been careless of consequences beyond his immediate political goals, and his goal in this election was to show that he could out-right the right.

The effect was to destroy what passes for the left in the South African political spectrum, to knock the Progressive Federal Party out of contention as a serious political force and to add immeasurably to the strength and stature of Dr Andries Treurnicht's forces of reaction.

When ruthlessness is portrayed as the only commendable political virtue even Mr Botha cannot prove himself holier than the Pope. English speaking voters may have sought an illusory safety within the National Party. But Afrikaners who believed Mr Botha's scare tactics flocked instead to the Conservative Party as a more trustworthy custodian of their security.

The result has been not only the loss of several key seats to the Conservative Party and its elevation to the role of official

opposition, but the marginalising of some fifty constituencies in the National Party's Transvaal heartland.

And if blue collar workers and Afrikaner farmers defected to the Right, the small but significant revolt of the Liberal Afrikaner elite would have drawn much encouragement from the excellent showing of the three Independent candidates.

Statistics show that, although the National Party's following has dropped to 52 per cent nationwide, it now enjoys the support of only half of Afrikanerdom. When Mr Botha tires of the taste of victory he may begin to count the costs to his own cause. They include: the dramatic weakening of his party's tribal base, the deepening and unbridgeable divisions between Afrikanerdom Left and Right — with the National Party uncomfortably supported by an English vote spurred by fear rather than belief or tribal loyalty — and reformist MPs chaffing against the concerns of colleagues whose constituencies have been placed under right wing threat.

And when his government once more addresses the real problems facing South Africa, it too will realise that it has successfully emasculated itself. Mr Botha will conclude that his new constituency has no stomach for further reform. But he will also find that although fear is an easy spur to an election victory it is no way to run a country.

The South African president may discover that his victory has been bought at a terrible price — for South Africa, for Afrikanerdom, for his party, and not least for himself.

SELLING OFF THE CELLS

One thing on which everyone concerned with the prisons is agreed is that they are overcrowded, insecure, and expensive. New ideas are sorely needed.

The Commons Home Affairs Committee, less three of its Labour members, has urged the Government to experiment by asking private sector companies to tender for the construction and management of prisons and remand centres. The Home Secretary, Mr Douglas Hurd, has given the report a bland welcome. Other comments have been less charitable, ranging from "dangerous and undemocratic" to "immoral".

Before the report is condemned as a temporary aberration of the loony right, it is worth considering its possible advantages. According to the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, prison conditions are worse today than they were 10 years ago. Prison conditions are unlikely to get worse under private management since private managers could be held to the terms of a contract.

From the point of view of civil liberties, prisoners could also take legal action against private sector prison wardens much more easily than is possible at present against their public sector counterparts. The benefits in terms of value for money are more straightforward. The rapid rise in prison costs partly reflects the growth of recorded crime. But it also reflects the high cost of labour in the service.

Over the past few years the political sensitivities surrounding the operation of the prisons have enabled the prison officers more or less to write their own terms of employment.

This week members of the Prison Officers Association have been voting on a new set of working practices which will help to establish the Prison Department's right to manage, but these still fall some way short of the kind of flexibility routinely found in the private sector.

Faced with monopoly suppliers of labour who have over the years established a store of "old Spanish practices" the most effective

solution has been to introduce an element of competition. It was right in Fleet Street. It has been right in local government where the effect of private tenders has been as much to improve the work patterns of the existing public sector employees as to hand over large areas of Government business to private contractors.

An understandable objection to contracting out the prison service is that it might reduce state control over standards of security. But worries of this kind have not stopped the provision of public water supplies by private companies nor the privatisation of British Gas — both also potential threats to public safety.

Privately run prisons are already in operation in the US. France is studying the possibility of privatising its entire prison service. Norway is experimenting. Even in Britain a private firm, Securicor, has been used to supervise the detention of immigrants. The Government should seriously study the possibility of an early experiment

pushed out simply because he had been strong minded.

There also seems to have been a suspicion, perhaps well founded, that the committee had not been as forceful as it should have been in safeguarding the proper rights of MCC. Matters would never reach the point they did on Wednesday if the committee had taken sufficient pains to keep the membership fully informed at every stage. Rebellions of this sort occur among busy people, with a love of the game but many other things on their minds, when they believe that they have been taken too much for granted.

But it is necessary to distinguish between procedural considerations and the basic issues involved. Whatever justification there may have been for uneasiness on the part of members, it cannot be in the best interests of cricket for the MCC and the TCCB to be at loggerheads.

The TCCB is nowadays entitled to run Test matches on all grounds in England. That is part of its constitution, accepted by the MCC. The members of MCC may properly insist on their rights being protected, but they will have to acknowledge the role of the TCCB and accept that the club cannot enjoy the same unquestioned preeminence that it had in the past.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Under-funding of science research

From Professor I. M. Glynn, FRS Sir, On the day last week that Sir David Weatherall was describing to a House of Lords committee the crisis in medical research in this country caused by gross under-funding of applied and basic science (report, May 1), I received a letter from the United States Embassy in The Hague.

It asked me to bring to the attention of recent PhDs the opportunities available in agricultural research in California. It explained that one-year or two-year appointments were available in various fields, including physiology, biochemistry and molecular biology, and that those appointed would be paid "at least \$27,000, possibly \$32,500 per year, plus travel costs".

I wonder whether the politicians and businessmen who are so ready with well-intentioned advice to our universities, appreciate just how bleak the prospects are for an able young man or woman anxious to begin an academic career in biomedical research in this country.

Jobs are few and ill paid — the starting salary for an assistant lecturer in his mid-twenties is under £10,000; many post-doctoral fellowships pay much less — and when the successful candidate applies to a research council for the funds necessary for him to do his research, he may well be told that, although the council regard the research as well worth doing, they are unable to fund it for lack of resources.

Yet, on a national scale, the sums involved are very small. Compare the £5million so grudgingly given to the Medical Research Council to enable it to meet recent nationally agreed salary increases with the £40million said to have been placed on bets on the Grand National.

Of course, it isn't the Government that placed the bets, but it is absurd to argue that, as a nation, we cannot afford to fund bio-

medical research properly. At the very least, it's a more worthwhile gamble.

Yours faithfully, IAN GLYNN, Physiological Laboratory, Downing Street, Cambridge, May 4.

Birth of a notion

From Dr Sydney Jones, FENG Sir, You report (April 28) that it is proposed to launch a new science and technology centre. While with many others I would welcome such a move, may I utter a word of caution before matters proceed too far.

Economies of scale which are undoubtedly obtained from such a move may well be lost, or at least diminished, by a failure fully to appreciate the climate of encouraging the innovative process. The very establishment of an over-large body of expertise tends to be stifling by the weight of accepted ideas which may accompany such an organisation.

Creativity is a delicate plant that can readily be trampled underfoot in the process of weeding. The innovative process flourishes in the small organisation; the trick is to recognise when the developing idea is ready to be planted out in the large business with the resources and equipment oriented to rapid and cheap means of production and with the resources to follow through. Many of the present attempts to encourage small business fail, in my view, because the financial yardstick is applied too soon in the process of development.

Let us hope that the many lessons that may be drawn from the experiences of the last half-century of technical development will not be lost in this present endeavour.

Yours faithfully, SYDNEY JONES, Chairman, The Conformable Wheel Co Ltd, Cornerstones, Back Lane, Malvern, Worcestershire.

Public cash control

From Mr Richard Cottrell, MEP for Bristol and Bath (European Democrat (Conservative)) Sir, Mr Hugh Dykes, MP (April 28) makes a strange argument in defence of accountability for public expenditure when he argues that the EEC budget is equivalent to one-fifth of public expenditure in the United Kingdom. This strains financial transparency to its limits.

Yes, Mr Dykes, your arithmetic might be right — but the sums will still not add up, because three-quarters of the Community budget is devoted to agriculture, which is not the case at home.

Mr Dykes is an enthusiast for the community concept. So am I. But neither of us should be satisfied with an EEC budget

bleated by agricultural spending, which has now roared out of control and brought the EEC to the brink of financial ruin.

Figures available to members of the European Parliament show that agricultural spending will be £2.8 billion in 1987, on current obligations. The accumulated future is even more ghastly. None of the member states is prepared to raise the limits on its contribution. If Mr Dykes detects "shrill, hysterical" reactions to wanton profligacy with other people's money on this scale, I am surprised that he is surprised.

Yours sincerely, RICHARD COTTRELL, Dean House, Clazage Road, Bower Ashton, Bristol, Avon, April 28.

Local politics

From Councillor R. J. Bower Sir, Assuming that "independent" candidates claim a common manifesto then I can accept Councillor Ruth Lyon's claim (May 4) that non-party groupings probably should be allocated TV air-time and other publicity equal to the number of candidates being fielded at an election. However, she seems to ignore the maverick tendency of "independent" councillors.

There are "politics" in every human relationship and the term "independent" can hide the true philosophy of a councillor. Surely it is more honest for a candidate to display a recognisable party description.

Perhaps a means of resolving the problems of "hung" councils, following an indecisive round of elections, would be to enable all the members, in consultation with the chief executive, to petition the Secretary of State for a dissolution of the council.

Yours, R. J. BOWER, 54 Stanhope Road, Littlehampton, West Sussex, May 4.

Taken on board

From Mr David Green Sir, A century or so ago we incarcerated people from this country in hulks on the Thames before transporting them to the colonies. If some of their descendants now have to spend a period similarly accommodated (report, April 29) before returning it will at least make things symmetrical.

Yours faithfully, DAVID GREEN, Rhyd yr Harding, Castle Morris, Nr Haverfordwest, Dyfed, May 1.

Amends made

From Mr Peter R. Green Sir, Your readers will be delighted to hear (May 6) of British Rail's response to Mrs Dax's earlier letter. Clearly her BR dossier differs from that of a colleague of mine who, renewing his season ticket at his local station some years ago, was able to read, upside down as it happens, a note on his which read, simply and succinctly, "Watch him — gets nasty".

Curiously, he seemed quite proud of this accolade. Yours faithfully, PETER R. GREEN, 86 Bluehouse Lane, Oxted, Surrey, May 6.

Private schooling

From Mr A. M. Davies Sir, Your first leading article last Thursday (April 30) made a very important point. For every family that makes the sacrifice necessary to ensure a high quality, uninterrupted education for their children, there are half a dozen more who would dearly like to be able to do the same.

It is time that a Conservative government did more to help such families. It has been in office for eight years, but the proportion of children in private education has only risen from 5 per cent to 7 per cent. If the Conservatives are re-elected (it will not be for ever) they should address themselves with some urgency to at least doubling that 7 per cent to 14 per cent or 15 per cent within four years.

There are various possibilities. It is likely, for example, that a small rebate, limited to the standard rate of taxation, would have a dramatic effect in persuading more parents to dip further into their own pockets in order to educate their children privately. Our aim should surely be to have a spectrum of different kinds of school diversely funded.

Would it not be possible to extend the voluntary-aided system? The Secretary of State's prediction that the proportion of pupils in the independent sector could not rise to more than 10 per cent is a form of defeatism which should not commend itself to the Prime Minister.

Yours, A. M. DAVIES, 92 Ifield Road, SW10.

The better half?

From Mr Philip Arnott Sir, It is the duties required of a gentleman which determine the size of his umbrella and handkerchief (recent letters).

In times of emergency a gentleman will offer his umbrella to a lady for her protection. He will do this by holding the umbrella in such a manner that at least three quarters of its surface area shelters the lady, being quite content himself with a fraction of the cover, however meagre.

When circumstances are such that he must cope with tears, instead of rain, a gentleman will offer a lady his freshly laundered handkerchief which, in common with his umbrella, is of adequate proportions to deal with the situation.

Yours faithfully, PHILIP ARNOTT, Clovers, Turville Heath, Nr Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, May 6.

Birds and beasts in linked decline

From Lord Dulverton Sir, Your article of May 4, commenting upon the Nature Conservancy Council's paper on the effects of Highland forestry on golden eagles, blames large scale plantings for some decline in eagle numbers.

If this is taking place, there is another factor that I believe to have a far greater influence. As you say, the mountain hare and the grouse form important sources of the eagles' diet and, as most people know, there has been a serious and widespread decline in the grouse populations of the Scottish moors over the last few decades.

What is less well known is the catastrophic decline in the numbers of "blue" hares. On a large grouse moor, well known to me, and where no tree planting has been taking place, the number of "blue" hares shot is recorded as follows: 1929-38, 45,000; 1967-76, 19,000; 1977-86, 54 (no organised shooting, owing to paucity of numbers).

I think the same pattern would be found over much of the Highlands, and it must be immensely important to the eagles. Yours faithfully, LORD DULVERTON, Batsford Park, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, May 5.

Penny unwise?

From Mr W. H. Saumarez Smith Sir, The Chancellor of the Exchequer's proposals (report, May 2) to change the coinage again, despite his admission that "most people are reluctant to see any change", will not be received with any enthusiasm by elderly and/or myopic people.

The 2p piece is an excellent coin, readily distinguishable from all other coins: so it is planned to abolish it, and we shall have to handle twice the number of fiddly little 1p pieces. We have become accustomed to the uniquely heaped-up 50p piece: so it may be made smaller and rounder, to muddle it with other smaller and rounder coins.

There is certainly a case for changing the 5p piece, but surely not into the diminutive three-penny bit, fit only for inserting into a Christmas pudding.

I still possess a Mint proof set of the old coins, acquired just before decimalization in 1971. My recollection is that all the coins in that set, from the halfpenny to the half-crown, with the exception of the twelve-sided threepenny piece, were in use in my childhood 50 years earlier. Yet Mr Lawson calls himself a Conservative.

Yours faithfully, W. H. SAUMAREZ SMITH, 16 Mill Road, Salisbury, Wiltshire, May 4.

Out on bail

From Mr Christopher Bailey Sir, Whilst it is reassuring to learn that the Chancellor is arranging for our views to be obtained on the shape, size and weight of our coins, I certainly don't like his comment that "there would be no change until all opinions had been considered".

How on earth are we going to manage in the meantime? Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER BAILEY, 26 Lyndhurst Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent.

Out on bail

From the Secretary of the Police Superintendents' Association of England and Wales Sir, The decision of the Government not to make any change to the Bail Act 1976 (report, April 28) is, in my view, a complete abdication of responsibility and is particularly disappointing from one who claims to have law and order as one of its primary aims.

The evidence for change is abundant in the light of the Silcott case and is compounded by the criticisms of the statute by the Lord Chancellor himself. The serious nature of the charge, the character of the accused, whether he is likely to abscond, the likelihood of further offences being committed, the evidence available to substantiate the charge and whether the accused's release is likely to defeat the ends of justice are all reasons for opposing bail. They should be considered together with the likely interference of witnesses.

It would appear in this case that the decision of her Majesty's Government has been taken with an eye upon the prison population rather than from a commonsense application supported by overwhelming evidence.

Yours faithfully, KENNETH A. SMITH (Secretary, The Police Superintendents' Association of England and Wales), 67a Reading Road, Pangbourne, Berkshire.

Flight of fancy

From Mr Richard Steele Sir, British Rail is to replace the double arrow symbol with a swallow (report, May 1). How appropriate. Do swallows not leave these shores in the autumn to remain unseen throughout the British winter?

I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient servant, R. STEELE, 13 Surrey Street, Brighton, Sussex, May 2.

ON THIS DAY

MAY 8 1954

The French protectorates in Indo-China dated from the late 19th century. In 1954 the Viet-minh declared Vietnam to be independent and in December, 1946, attacked French forces — the beginning of a war which lasted until 1954. The Geneva conference provided for the temporary division of the country, a settlement which eventually led to the war of 1965-73.

FALL OF DIEN BIEN PHU

The main positions at Dien Bien Phu have fallen to the Viet-minh forces after a siege of eight weeks and a final attack lasting 20 hours. In the last assault the Communists flung in their infantry regardless of casualties.

A message from General de Castries recording the enemy's progress reported: "They are a few yards away... They have broken through everywhere!" Then there was silence.

A COSTLY OPERATION

GEN. GIAP'S DISREGARD FOR CASUALTIES

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT Paris, May 7 Dien Bien Phu, which earlier last year had been used by the Viet-minh as a base for its offensive against Laos, was recaptured by the French last November by means of a parachute operation.

The purpose of this move was partly to interrupt communications between the Thai country, held by the Viet-minh, and Laos, and partly to rally and sustain the Thai population. Once captured, the town was speedily built up into a fortified camp, and in the early part of this year its investment by General Giap had already begun. Throughout January and February the Viet-minh forces continued to gather, and after the abandonment by the Viet-minh of their Laos campaign, Dien Bien Phu became their clear objective.

RECKLESS TACTICS

The siege of Dien Bien Phu began on March 13, when General Giap launched his first mass attack with the reckless disregard for casualties that has characterized his subsequent tactics. The Viet-minh force numbered about 40,000 men and a great many anti-aircraft and artillery weapons, and General (then Colonel) de Castries had some 12 battalions under his command. The attack was successful, though at great cost to the Viet-minh, and the main and the subsidiary airfields on which the camp depended for its communications, were put virtually out of action. Immediately the process began, and has never stopped since, of supplying and reinforcing the camp by parachute drops. The equivalent of at least four battalions have jumped into Dien Bien Phu.

On March 30 came the second main assault. In violent hand-to-hand fighting the Viet-minh again made important inroads into the camp, and General de Castries was compelled to draw back his line. A plan to evacuate by air the wounded of this attack failed, and conditions began to grow serious for the beleaguered garrison.

HOPELESS POSITION

By the middle of the month the garrison commander had had to reduce his defence perimeter to a rough circle rather less than a mile in diameter, containing the main camp and its defence and about half of the airstrip. A short distance to the south was the isolated subsidiary camp known as "Isabelle." Though the morale of the garrison remained surprisingly high (it was only a week ago that General de Castries was complaining that the morale of the French troops, which had been demoralized in tone and were depressing his men), it was becoming tragically clear that they were in a hopeless position. The final blow, now that it has fallen, will have caused no surprise.

But, terrible though the price has been, the defenders of Dien Bien Phu can be said to have fulfilled their spiritual mission, which was initially to prevent the capture of Luang Prabang, and then to inflict heavy losses on the enemy and draw off the Viet-minh from attacking the Red River delta before the rains began.

In praise of aunts

From Mr Colin Haycraft Sir, An aunt who deserves our praise is the aunt responsible, in more ways than one, for the best book in the English language which we now celebrate in the bicentenary year of publication.

Gibbon's Aunt Kitty, "the true mother of my mind and health", nursed him through his near-fatal childhood illness; later, in his twelfth year, she gave him his "early and invincible love of reading which I would not exchange for the treasures of India", and it was with her that he indulged in his first religious disputations: she was "often puzzled by the mysteries she strove to believe".

Perhaps Aunt Kitty was the candid reader to whom the *Decline and Fall* was unconsciously addressed. "Her natural good sense was improved by the best books... and if her reason was clouded by prejudice, her sentiments were never disguised by hypocrisy or affectation".

Yours, COLIN HAYCRAFT, Chairman, Gerald Duckworth & Co Ltd, 43 Gloucester Crescent, NW1.

THE ARTS

Booking location

When is a novel not a novel? When it is written by Christine Brooke-Rose. Then it is a diagram, a graph, a list. Or perhaps it is indeed a novel. Such was one of the questions that *Bookmark* (BBC2) addressed itself to although in this instance, despite the worthy endorsement of A.S. Byatt, the answer remained unclear. Christine Brooke-Rose is a charming character often classified as a writer in Parisian exile but who would

TELEVISION

rather be described as a writer who teaches at a Paris university. "I feel free to say what I want in my novels because I know no one will read them," she remarked with a steely smile.

For the sake of the camera she donned a vast cape and hat for a stroll along the Seine and sat in a primary coloured classroom when normally, as she pointed out in a memo to the *Bookmark* team, she would be found teaching in less photogenic surroundings.

This was the last item in a programme which demonstrated not only that *Bookmark* are right to seek out jolly locations but that, when you are discussing books, the writing under debate has a tendency to be infinitely more interesting than the debate itself. Blake Morrison, the *Observer's* literary editor, was sat in a rather bleak studio to discuss and recite his poem about Peter Sutcliffe, the Yorkshire Ripper. Written in a Yorkshire dialect which has more words for "immoral women" than do the Eskimos for snow, it demonstrated how any language reveals priorities in the spread of its vocabulary.

In this case, a northern chauvinism and slant towards misogyny.

The feminist Nicole Ward Jouve, also a chronicler of the Ripper story, was less fortunate all round. Taking the reverse trip, Christine Brooke-Rose, she came to Yorkshire from France in search of some essence of the British and the open space of the moors, and found instead an horrific restraint caused by the roaming of Sutcliffe.

Alexandra Shulman

In Cold Comfort Fiord

THEATRE IN LONDON

Rosmersholm Cottesloe

Thanks to the translators and directors of the past 20 years, Ibsen has been largely released from his Victorian cobwebs and endowed with a powerfully modern voice. *Rosmersholm*, however, does not figure among the list of reclaimed works.

Its setting, an old country house where no child cries and no adult ever laughs, is the ultimate location of Cold Comfort Fiord. It makes obsessive reference to "ideas" — in Ibsen, always a sure sign that no actual ideas are on the dramatic agenda. And its coupling of coarse public conflict with an evasively tortured subtext is a notorious translator's headache.

One can imagine a production that somehow succeeds in reconciling the poisonous nuances of the Rosmer-Rebecca relationship with the knock-about political hostilities of Kroll and Mortensgaard and the expressionist interventions of Ulrik Brendel, the old academic vagrant who advises Rebecca to prove her love by cutting her finger off. But, as usual, the elements fail to coalesce in this production by Sarah Pia Anderson.

The translation is by the Ulster dramatist Frank McGuinness, who certainly makes a big thing of the sectarian divisions that turned friend against friend in the Norway of the 1880s. He also cultivates several mutually insulated dialogue styles.

Miss Anderson follows Ibsen's directions in presenting a stage, designed by Roger Glossop, that is overshadowed with gloomy portraits of Rosmer's ancestors. The stage is steeply raked, leading up to the exit to the mill-race. As a stage picture, it is a direct invitation to the final double suicide.

I had hoped that David Ryall might follow the lead of Tom Wilkinson's *Manders in the Young Vic Ghosts* and

do something to humanize Kroll. But no; the part is played, as written, with hatred, revealing only a domineering reactionary who will perform any dirty trick to support the values that have made Norway great.

Ken Drury's Mortensgaard is a modest liberal nonentity. Robert Eddison's Brendel, fastidiously distinguished in rags and wild hair, and touching Rosmer for a loan as though money was a matter of sublime indifference, is a scene-stealing treat.

This brings us to the problem of Rosmer himself, a hero who demonstrates his virtue by blindness and innocence to everything going on around him. It is a rotten part, and could be reclaimed only by a performance of the utmost delicacy and innate sensitivity. What Roger Lloyd Pack offers is a cadaverous spectre with a graveyard voice, moving as if fresh off Dr. Frankenstein's slab, and giving the impression, in his sequence of deadpan questions, of simply being slow-witted.

Rebecca West is thus left without a credible partner. Suzanne Berish plays her with a secret sense of voluptuous proprietorship, well masked when she gets into company. She marks the turning points in her story with inner turmoil that never breaks social decorum and, in the end, you can see the old battles inscribed on the face that has outlived them. It is a fine performance in a void.

Irving Wardle



Cadaverous spectre off Frankenstein's slab: Roger Lloyd Pack as Rosmer

Intense physicality devoted to good-natured fun

Jeeves Takes Charge Wyndham's

In the inimitable world of Wooster, a chap is not described as drinking, no, he passes gin and tonic over the larynx. And if silence falls, especially a threatening silence with a nearby aunt displeased, it is a silence you could have dug bits out of with a spoon.

It is the spoon that is the marvel in that line. Bertie Wooster may consider himself a fairly average pinhead, and the fobhorn bray of laughter Edward Duke gives him in this one-man show does not

auger well for the workings of his top story. But only a fellow with a tremendous gift for fun could have sensed how much livelier it is to dig bits out of silence with a spoon when the average pea-brain member of the Drones Club would never have staggered beyond cutting it with a knife.

Duke dishes out this bubbling, good-natured fun through an intensely physical performance, agile and neat, now willing before an aunt's raised forefinger, then switching to become the auntly digit.

He has a voice that contrives to exhaust itself into a breathily delivered punch-word; and he manages two scarcely believable quick changes, riding himself of spats and three-piece check suit to emerge in another, perfectly buttoned three-piece,

all within what seems like 10 seconds.

The cluster of short stories from which he carves his two-hour programme presents fewer difficulties than most adapters face in that P.G. Wodehouse gave them to Wooster to narrate in the first place. So, in dramatizing the Jeeves plot that wrecks his master's unwise engagement, Duke keeps the familiar, marvelously comic tone. It is present again for Gussie Fink-Nottle's disastrous prize-giv-

ing, while, sandwiched between these, Duke presents a tale in Jeeves's ornate words.

In the first half Jeeves manages to do what the show's title announces, and it is a pity the second half does not develop this theme further. That said, the brilliantly imagined drunk scene we do get, where wild movements freeze into ludicrously angular poses, is a display of inspired clowning, as cleverly funny as anything else in town.

Jeremy Kingston

CONCERTS

Bavarian RSO/Davis Festival Hall/Radio 3

The warmth of Sir Colin Davis's relationship with the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra has been evident from their records, and was more than confirmed by Wednesday's concert.

They began by fielding full resources for a performance of Strauss's *Don Juan* that was joyous in its confidence and generosity of tone, and appealingly direct; that manner was maintained in the more attenuated music, thanks to a solo oboe combining straightforward projection with a woody, nutty timbre. Much more of the orchestra was heard in relief in the generally rarefied textures of Günter Mahler's *Meyerbeer Paraphrases* just two months short of 80, the composer was happily present to hear this performance of a work he wrote in 1971.

It was clearly an occasion for sentiment, and the work itself has more than a touch of personal nostalgia in being a sequence of more or less distorted memories sparked off not only by the music itself

but also, and perhaps more so, by the composer's childhood experiences of it at the piano and at open-air band concerts. That may explain the slightly Ivesian character of some moments, though the work also, less fortunately, suggests what Henze might have made of this material.

In the second half there was the *Symphonie fantastique* to show how humane Sir Colin's Berlioz has become. At the start of this affectionate, relaxed and appreciative performance, his sympathies were more with the ebbs and dissolves than with each new surge, and the players were well equipped to show off one exquisitely textured diminuendo after another. Even in the main part of this opening movement there was less the glare and stab of steel than the pleasure of roundly moulded musical substance. And, at the start of the ball scene, the strings provided a sensuous gauze curtain which grew in intensity until it became fizzing light.

If other sections found the brass unduly weighty, with a too assertive solo trumpet, the finale was outstandingly delicate, and suggested not so much witchery as the playful tease of the last act of *Falstaff*, giving us for once a Berlioz with the ironic intelligence of his writings. It was a beguiling view.

Paul Griffiths

Spohr Quartet Purcell Room

David Matthews's new Concertino for oboe and string quartet, commissioned for this concert by the English Chamber Orchestra, is in reality a miniature tone poem in which two soloists, oboist and first violinist, represent the protagonists of a myth. For this work was composed under the direct influence of Titian's painting *The Flaying of Marsyas*, which depicts the outcome of Apollo's musical competition with Marsyas.

Matthews's music follows faithfully the events of the story, not caring to mystify it further through blurring the chronology or imposing a view from outside. Yet the result is something that sounds disparate and unsettled. The dialectic lacks a personal stamp, and a feeling of self-containment is absent.

If the piece lacks sophistication in the traditional Austro-German mould, there is

compensation in its appealing pictorial directness, a quality manifest in the vague sounds of the opening section for string trio alone, which suggests a pre-Apollonian darkness, as well as in the idiomatic solo writing, where, for instance, hesitant near-miss notes on the oboe mean that Marsyas is learning to play the *aulos*.

Neil Black took Marsyas's role, coaxing from his instrument an impressively varied tonal palette, while the victorious Apollo, who in Titian's painting plays a *lira da braccio*, was Maciej Rakowski, both energetic and lyrical. The backdrop was provided by the remaining three members of the Spohr Quartet, all ECO members, who did not always translate this tricky score with the utmost accuracy. Nor was Bartók's Sixth Quartet consistently secure in intonation or balance, though its curiously elusive spirit survived.

Stephen Pettitt

A Masked Ball Dome

still work if it could find the proper corporate spirit of commitment.

Neither Bruce Rankin as Gustav nor Joan Croft as Amelia has the size of personality to carry the piece without more positive direction. Rankin, who cuts a stiff and uneasy figure on stage, put on a brave showing with what is essentially a light English tenor, while Croft is hampered by areas of poor focus in the voice.

Patrick Wheatley fared better as a sullen Anckarstroem.

But it was left to that seasoned professional Elizabeth Bainbridge in the relatively minor role of Madame Arvidson to bite into her words and project the opera as though it really deals with issues of importance.

Altogether the greatest impact, however, came from the NCOS Symphony Orchestra under Adrian Leaper. Details might be refined but there was urgency and dramatic force in plenty here, at least, is conveyed the flame of enthusiasm which used to burn so brightly. It is still not too late to find the funds and restore this company to health as a vital, worthwhile enterprise.

Richard Fairman

The dangers of self-indulgence

The tepid applause that greeted Michael Clark's new show at the Brighton Festival, even with half-price tickets on offer for students at Wednesday's performance, sounded a warning he is more likely to heed than any words of criticism. But, in case he misses the point, perhaps it is worth mentioning that, in line with his innocent delight in sexual innuendo, playing around with your own talent is the most dangerous form of self-abuse.

The second half of the programme is *Now Gods*, the last section of the long work *No Fire Escape in Hell* which was a big hit at Sadler's Wells last September. Before that comes *Pure Pre-Scenes*, a new work performed to 12 Chopin Preludes and various bits of music more in Clark's usual style. The production covers a similar range. Part of it is abstract choreography, post-modern in style, part a sort of cabaret featuring the Australian designer Leigh Bowery dressing up and camping about.

The mixture, although not to everyone's taste, is one that Clark has used successfully before now. It seems to me that there are two reasons why it flops this time.

One is that he has really not got his ideas together, and in particular that the pure choreography that starts the

BRIGHTON FESTIVAL

Michael Clark Theatre Royal

piece and recurs through it is perfunctory in the extreme. The invention, control and clarity that have marked his best work, from the *New Puritans* double-bill to *Swamp*, are missing this time, as if he had thrown it together without really caring. The other fault lies in the quality of performance.

His own dancing is still first-rate, including a solo dressed as a dinosaur, and in Ellen van Schuylenburgh he retains a woman of comparable excellence, although less brilliance. However the other dancers — only four of them this time — look in good form then they did last autumn: not enough clarity or zip. Clark dilutes their quality further by having his friend David Holah (half of the design team *Bodymap*) in the dances. Tolah tries hard and his arms look good, but lack of developed muscle-tone makes his movements flaccid.

Clark is too kind to his friends. Bowery is another, and apparently given free rein, but the only talent he displays is for looking absurd. That he



Michael Clark: dancing still first-rate, but control lacking

does well, but it is a small gift that very quickly grows tiresome.

I must warn potential audiences that the work contains a section performed to a lurid, detailed and explicit recording, presumably of the type used for telephone sex. Many people around me, young and old, palpably found it shocking. I did myself, offensive in a way that Clark's visual provocations never were. *Now Gods* again has the Yugoslav

rock group Laibach in support, but their neo-fascist, satanic threat evaporates when they are as clearly visible as on the Theatre Royal's small stage. Even this work failed to stir the audience.

It would be a pity if a dancer and choreographer of Clark's proven gifts alienated his public by silly indulgence of self and friends.

John Percival

The waste land restored

Sidewalk Edge Gardner Arts Centre

Hinderik de Groot, the author and artistic director of this production by his own Amsterdam-based company, Stadio Hinderik, has been a puppeteer and marionettist. Now, it seems, the chief object of his manipulation is not puppets or even actors but space in the theatre. At the centre of this production is an extraordinarily sophisticated machine for acting, a hydraulic platform which can be raised, lowered and tilted with seamless ease and which becomes, in turn, a cinema screen, a vast table-cum-bed and the sidewalk of the title.

But, if this sounds like technological wizardry for its own sake, it is justified by the originality and beauty of the imagery it makes possible. A narrative framework, of a fragmentary kind, is provided by a series of letters, read out on tape, from the unnamed

protagonist (a middle-aged man in a brown suit) to his friend Gerard and by the silent black and white film of the object of his love, the young boy David. The words, though, merely act as a gloss on the mimed images which form the heart and guts of the play.

These images often recall the Surrealist painters in their dreamlike illogicality and their evocation of an immense nostalgia. For most of the play the platform is the sidewalk, a symbolically charged piece of waste space. It is something of a crazy pavement: the lines of paving stones fan out from a vanishing point at front centre stage in reversed perspective. At times the stones heave and crack open; images emerge, like a reptilian, infinitely extendable lamppost; or

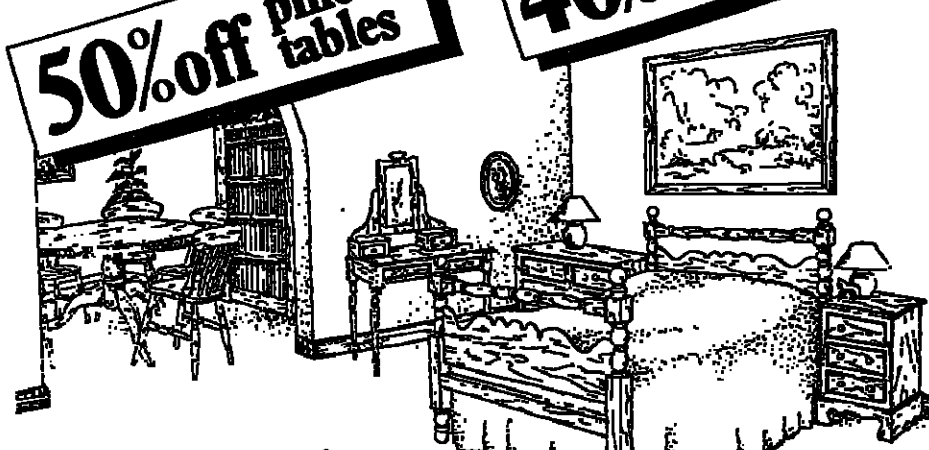
change, like the crumpling Beckettian dustbin. In a particularly powerful moment the platform lifts and we descend into the drains below the sidewalk: through the sewer runs a rubbery skein of detritus, to which a series of moulded representations of the young David are attached. The images become more perfect, and then decay into indistinction.

Sidewalk Edge, like Eliot's *Waste Land*, is concerned with memory and desire, loneliness and the loss of love. Using a symbolic language conceived in theatrical terms, it comes to a similar conclusion: only the crystallizing power of art, of the image, can give some order to our shattered lives, and at the end the sidewalk heaves gently under a benign light, a waste land restored to a primitive kind of life.

Harry Eyres

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10, Chalk Farm Road, NW1	01-476 4253	ROSWORTH	(0706) 23111
10, Upper Richmond Road, W14		21, South Street	(0706) 23111
		SOUTHAMPTON	(0706) 23111
		21, South Street	(0706) 23111
		ST. ALBANS	(0706) 23111
		21, High Street	(0706) 23111
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A neighbour said the Saunders family had stayed at the house "on and off" since the Guinness affair broke, but she did not expect them to return, except to sort out the sale.

Mr Taylor with the world-beating castings, the idea for which Japan have offered to buy.

Concise crossword, page 10

[illegible]

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Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1628.0 (-12.5)FT-SE 100
2077.9 (-8.6)Bargains
43878 (41423)USM (Datastream)
169.91 (+0.63)

THE POUND

US dollar
1.6800 (-0.0075)W German mark
2.9870 (+0.0001)Trade-weighted
73.6 (-0.1)BAA chief
executive
is named

Mr Jeremy Marshall, aged 49, the chief executive of Imperial Foods for the last six months, has been appointed chief executive of BAA, formerly the British Airports Authority.

The company, whose chairman is Sir Norman Payne, had been expected for some time to appoint a chief executive to help steer the state-owned group into the private sector. BAA is now top of the Government's privatization list, but, with the strong possibility of an early election, the hoped-for June flotation looks increasingly unlikely.

Mr Marshall, a Wiggins Teape management trainee, takes up the new post on June 15. He became chief executive of Imperial Foods last November, having previously been a director of the Imperial Group and deputy chairman of Courage.

Profits jump

United Scientific Holdings announced a pretax profit of £4.1 million at the interim stage compared with a loss of nearly £1 million last year. Sales were up 19 per cent to £60 million and the dividend is being raised from 2.2p to 2.4p. *Tempos, page 22*

Holt Lloyd up

Holt Lloyd International, the car-car group, lifted profits by 15 per cent to £7.44 million in the year ended February 28, on sales up from £80.1 million to £88.1 million. Earnings per share rose from 7.1p to 8.2p and the total dividend is raised from 4p to 4.65p, with a 2.65p final. *Tempos, page 22*

SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS

New York	2335.37 (-6.82)
Dow Jones	2335.37 (-6.82)
Nikkei Dow	24207.55 (+288.99)
Hong Kong	2785.58 (-7.33)
Hang Seng	283.5 (+3.1)
Amsterdam Gen	1822.7 (+27.3)
Sydney	1822.7 (+27.3)
Frankfurt	1803.1 (-2.5)
Commerzbank	1803.1 (-2.5)
Brussels	4953.5 (-12.6)
Paris CAC	466.2 (+5.3)
Zurich S&K Gen	n/a
London FT	2077.9 (-8.6)
FT 100	2077.9 (-8.6)
FT 30	1628.0 (-12.5)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISER:	
Shell	12490 (+250)
Titanium	3350 (+120)
Farline Boots	2350 (+320)
Freemove	1710 (+140)
Associated News	5490 (+200)
Amersham	5800 (+110)
Rockat & Colman	10470 (+280)
WCRS Group	2910 (+110)
FTI	5000 (+100)
RTZ	10070 (+120)
Halls Homes Gdn.	10850 (+130)
Media Technology	1710 (+110)

FALLS:

Courtaulds	4260 (-200)
DBE Technology	2140 (-80)
Plessey	5300 (-140)
Exel Group	4850 (-130)
Siebel	2800 (-130)

Prices are as at 4pm

INTEREST RATES

London Bank Base	9%
3-month interbank	5 1/4%
3-month eligible bills	8%-8 1/4%
buying rate	
US Prime Rate	6%
Federal Funds	5 1/4%
3-month Treasury Bills	5.56-5.55%
30-year bonds	8 1/2-8 3/4%

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£ \$1.6800	£ \$1.6780
£ DM2.9670	£ DM1.7610
£ Sfr2.4528	£ Sfr1.4825
£ Yen233.94	£ FF5.9580
£ Index:73.6	£ Index:39.8
ECU £0.69215	SDR £0.779251

GOLD

London Fixing:	
AM \$457.40 pm \$456.25	
COMEX \$458.25-458.75 (2272.75-273.25)	
New York:	
Comex \$457.60-458.20	

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (June) pm \$18.45 bid (\$18.45)	
* Deviants latest trading price	
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Share inquiry
at LadbrokeSE to investigate
price fluctuations

By Cliff Feltham

Ladbroke, the betting shops, property and do-it-yourself group, yesterday asked the Stock Exchange to launch an inquiry into dealings in its shares after rumours have caused violent fluctuations in its price during the last few days.

The Stock Exchange, which regularly monitors any sharp price movements, said an investigation would start immediately.

Mr Cyril Stein, the chairman of Ladbroke, was understood to be both "frustrated and irritated" at what bears all the hallmarks of a concerted smear campaign against the company.

The announcement of the investigation pushed the Ladbroke share price up 7p to 398p. However, it has plummeted from 438p on Tuesday as rumours began to filter through the sensitive stock market.

During the course of trading yesterday Ladbroke, with its advisers, decided that some

action was needed to identify who might be responsible for causing a run on its share price.

There has been unusually heavy trading in its shares. In an average day something like two million to 2.25 million shares might change hands but during the last couple of days the total has been considerably higher. An estimated 8 million shares changed hands on Tuesday, 7 million on Wednesday, and about four million yesterday.

Charterhouse Bank, the adviser to Ladbroke, said that the Stock Exchange had been asked to "carry out an official inquiry into the unusual dealings in the ordinary shares of Ladbroke over the past few days."

The statement went on to say that the request came after the publication of further articles concerning Satellite Information Services (SIS) in which Ladbroke is a leading participant, "in particular references in *Marketing Week*

concerning a campaign to knock the integrity of SIS."

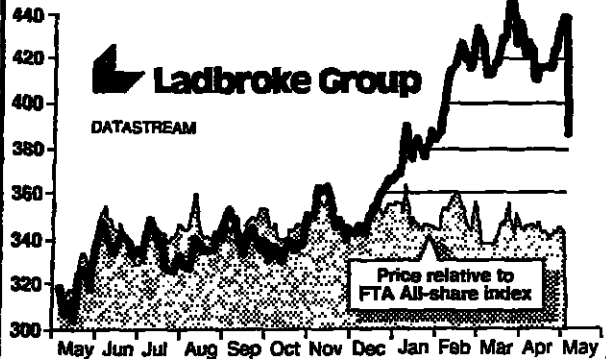
According to Charterhouse, this is just one of something like 15 different rumours.

Ladbroke has a 15 per cent stake in SIS, a new satellite horse racing television service which was launched earlier this week, in partnership with other leading bookmakers.

Mr John Harounoff, a spokesman for Ladbroke, said yesterday: "There has what appears to have been a sustained campaign of rumours concerning our company. If you get such a series impugning a company it obviously needs looking into. The price has been moving in a volatile way and the market makers have been chasing their tails."

Later a spokesman for Charterhouse Bank said there had been an exceptional level of activity in the shares and a multiplicity of rumours. "We are being bombarded by rumours affecting commercial areas of the company which obviously need to be investigated and so we have handed it over to the powers that be. It cannot be right that a company which six weeks ago launched one of the longest rights issues in history and has a tremendously successful record of growth should suddenly find itself on the receiving end of rumours of the kind now circulating."

The Stock Exchange said it was aware of the activity in the Ladbroke shares and as part of the normal monitoring process would have taken a closer look.

Stakis has
40% jump
in profits

By John Bell, City Editor

The Stakis hotels and restaurants group has made a strong start to the year, pushing pretax profits ahead by 40 per cent to £8.425 million in the first half.

Shareholders will receive a 20 per cent boost in the interim dividend to 0.54p per share.

The first-half performance was an excellent foundation for the full year and 1986/7 should be another successful year, says the company, headed by Mr Reo Stakis, the chairman.

All operating divisions contributed to the profit growth. The results benefited from a large cut in interest charges from the sale of the wines and spirits division last year.

The finance division achieved a satisfactory improvement and, with a continuation of favourable market conditions, progress should continue. After a sharply higher tax charge of £2.325 million against £1.6 million, net profits were £1.68 million higher at £6.1 million. Earnings per share climbed 35 per cent to 2.51p.

The sterling index opened at 73.4 on market nerves about an opinion poll showing the Conservatives only five points

Pressure eases for
interest rate cut

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Pressure on the Bank of England to cut base rates eased yesterday, as the pound's rise was checked by a poor opinion poll showing for the Government.

Dealers said an early reduction in base rates to 9 per cent was still on the cards, but that the Bank was likely to assess market reaction, both to the local election results and the possible announcement of a general election at the beginning of next week, before making a move.

Money market interest rates edged up by around 1/4 of a point. The three-month interbank rate closed at 9 1/4 per cent. The Bank of England is likely to be more comfortable with rates at this level, as it indicates that the markets are only pressing for a half-point reduction in base rates.

The sterling index opened at 73.4 on market nerves about an opinion poll showing the Conservatives only five points

Standard will not pull
out of South Africa

by Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Lord Barber, the retiring chairman of Standard Chartered Bank, the international banking group, said yesterday during a rowdy general meeting in London that there was no likelihood of the bank withdrawing from South Africa. Standard ran into loud opposition from anti-apartheid groups during the meeting.

Lord Barber said although he personally abhorred apartheid, the bank was not pulling out. He would not give an undertaking, such as the one

given by Barclays Bank, that Standard would make no new loans to South Africa. "Withdrawal from South Africa is not an option for us."

Standard, the largest western creditor to South Africa, has more than £600 million in lending affected by the Pretoria government's "rescheduling."

The bank's two largest shareholders, Sir YK Pao and Mr Robert Holmes à Court, were both present at the meeting as main board directors.

Minister backs oil industry view on energy reserves

Britain 'self-sufficient' in gas

By David Young
Energy Correspondent

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State at the Department of Energy with responsibility for oil and gas, yesterday gave official support to the view being put forward by the oil companies that Britain is self-sufficient in natural gas and there will be no need for British Gas to turn to Norway for supplies.

The Department of Energy's annual report on the offshore industry, published yesterday, shows that total remaining gas reserves are little changed from last year, but that oil reserves have increased by 8 per cent, mainly because of British Petroleum's upgrading of the potential of its giant Forties and Magnus fields.

However, work done in the southern sector of the North Sea means that some gas field reserves have been upgraded from "possible" to "probable" and new exploration drilling, although at a lower rate than in 1985, has led to the firming up of previous encouraging results.

The Minister will shortly announce the awarding of licences for oil exploration under the tenth round of North Sea licensing. Mr Buchanan-Smith said: "I approved five new gas fields in the Southern Basin last year and another at the beginning of this year, which, together with additions to existing gas fields and other projects currently under discussion, point to an encouraging outlook for gas supplies for the next decade."

"Further encouraging oil discoveries were made, mainly in the central and northern North Sea."

"Despite the problems posed in 1986 by a weak oil market and falling prices the UK offshore supplies industry won £1.8 billion worth of orders. While this was somewhat lower than 1985, reflecting the downturn in activity, the UK share of total orders increased by 2 per cent to 82 per cent which is the highest percentage figure yet recorded. The offshore supplies industry continues to be of important and significant benefit to the economy."

The oil industry is at present attempting to win Government tax concessions to build a pipeline system to collect gas from the central area of the North Sea.



Hands full: Sir Francis Tombs, R-R chairman yesterday

Little
chance
of R-R
ballot

The Rolls-Royce share flotation closed at least twice oversubscribed yesterday after a last minute flood of applications.

The late demand triggers off the clawback arrangements, cutting the amount going to institutions from 60 per cent to 50 per cent and releasing a further 79 million shares for small investors.

This means a total of 406.6 million shares will now be available to satisfy demand from the public, reducing the prospect of a ballot.

Counting is likely to go on into the weekend but estimates yesterday were that something like 1 1/2 million applications had been received for the £1.36 billion share sale.

The huge demand is bound to increase the prospects of the 85p partly-paid shares going to a substantial premium - perhaps up to 30p - when dealings begin.

At one stage yesterday morning a queue stretching 300 yards had built up.

"I have never seen anything like it in 30 years in the City," said Mr Freddie Payne, head of the new issues department at National Westminster Bank.

At another bank in the City, eager applicants, faced with the prospect of missing the 10am deadline, began stuffing their forms under the door as it closed on them.

Mr Christopher Clarke, a director of Samuel Montagu, the merchant bank sponsoring the issue, said he hoped to avoid a ballot.

Harris
plans to
broaden
range

By Alexandra Jackson

Harris Queensway plans to revitalize the furniture market by paying more attention to design and customer service.

The position of furniture in the discretionary spending tables has slipped in recent years and last year, 40 per cent of consumers spent no money on furniture.

Harris Queensway aims to stimulate demand in this otherwise stagnant market by providing a broader range of products more suited to the needs of the modern household. Efforts are also being made to improve customer service, particularly in relation to the time taken for goods to be delivered.

The company sells furniture from 512 outlets encompassing 4.9 million square feet of selling space. The size has more than doubled in the last year after the acquisition of Times Furnishing from GUS in July 1986. The group has a 14 per cent market share. Mr Peter Carr, a main board director, joined Harris Queensway last year from Debenhams and will implement the new strategy.

In the year to January 25, pretax profits at Harris Queensway, net of property profits, increased from £35 million to £43.4 million. Property profits of £6.7 million were reported, compared with £1.9 million previously.

Turnover rose by 19 per cent to £592.2 million. Earnings per share, stripping out property profits, were unchanged at 13.5p. A final dividend of 4p was declared, making a total of 5.75p for the year.

The bad weather at the beginning of last year depressed turnover and profits by £13 million and £5 million respectively.

Sir Philip Harris, the chairman and chief executive, reported a strong start to 1987/88. He said: "The group can look forward to another successful year."

Expansion will come from new store openings and the refurbishment of existing space. Hamleys, the toy shop purchased from Debenhams last year for £30 million, will double its size this year with the opening of eight new outlets.

After the rights issue in January last year, which raised £71.6 million, and the cash injection of £70 million after the sale of consumer credit debt belonging to Times Furnishing in October 1986, Harris Queensway had net cash at the end of January 1987 of £52 million.

*Tempos, page 22*HOME OWNERS
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*For a typical loan of £5,000 over 11 years, the monthly interest payment would be £46.90 and the investment plan premium £32.00. Making a total monthly payment of £78.90. The total loan with interest and premiums payable over 11 years would be £11,110.40 (This amount could be substantially reduced if the loan is repaid early. At the end of your loan period the investment maturity should be sufficient to repay your loan capital and supply a tax free cash bonus. As funds grow up and down the maturity value cannot be guaranteed. Neither past performance nor the current situation are necessarily accurate guides to the future but in the unlikely event of the maturity being insufficient to repay all the loan capital we will allow you to continue paying the same instalments for a little longer until the balance is repaid. This example has been calculated assuming that the APR of 12.3% remains the same throughout the loan term and relates to persons aged over 18 and will under 65 at the end of the loan repayment period. Seven days written notice would be given for any change in the interest rate. The investment plan, which is arranged by Standard Life Assurance Company Limited, assigned to this secured loan will last for the same term as the loan.

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Home Tel. No. _____ Date of Birth: _____
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BUSINESS SUMMARY

Optimistic FKB in £5.4m cash call

FKB Group, the sales promotion company, yesterday announced a £5.4 million rights issue, together with an optimistic estimate of profits and its intention to graduate from the USM to a full listing. The one-for-four issue is pitched at 250p — a 50p discount to FKB's share price immediately before the announcement. The shares fell 10p to 290p.

FKB is paying an initial £2.89 million for Photobition, a market leader in exhibition and display graphics. Further payments depend on Photobition's profits. FKB estimates its own pretax profits for the year to March 31, 1987, at at least £2 million, 39 per cent up.

Hollas buys Cottonline

Hollas, the garment and textile group, is buying Cottonline, a Bradford based company that is involved in the manufacture of waterproof leisurewear and industrial clothing. Hollas is paying £500,000, which will be increased if Cottonline reaches certain profit levels. It made just over £20,000 for the nine months to the end of January.

Quick in £3m rights issue

H & J Quick, the Manchester Ford dealer, is raising £3.1 million to buy and develop new sites. The company plans more new car franchises and an advance into the local used car market. The funds will be raised through an underwritten one-for-three rights issue at 180p a share. Quick made profits of £1.756 million for 1986 against £637,000.

Time makes £7.6m

Time Products, the watch manufacturer, which last September sold the Weir Jewellery shops chain to Combined English Stores, reported a strong profits advance from £4.15 million to £7.62 million pretax for the year ended January. The final dividend is being raised from 1.5p to 2.25p a share making 3p, compared with 2p for the year.

The Hong Kong business of Remex has been reorganized with all borrowings virtually eliminated, and at the operating level Remex turned in profits of £4.87 million compared with £2.52 million. Operating profits in Britain were down from £2.67 million to £2.56 million. Net income swung from a £1.04 million charge to a £194,000 credit, helped by the sale of Weir, on which an extraordinary net profit of £4.1 million was made. The shares rose 6p to 152p yesterday.

Scottish trust raises £40m

Scottish Eastern Investment Trust, the non-specialist capital growth trust run by the Edinburgh management house, Martin Currie, is raising £40 million in a debenture stock placing. Lower interest rates and a rise in the value of the portfolio have persuaded the directors that the time is appropriate to increase gearing.

Nottingham Co-op surges

The Greater Nottingham Co-op has announced record profits of £6.9 million, £1.1 million up on the previous year. Turnover rose by £19 million to £271.4 million, an increase of 7.5 per cent. The society, which employs 6,600 people in the Nottinghamshire area, is an amalgamation of branches throughout Nottinghamshire and parts of Lincolnshire.

Profits up at Holmes

Profits are up at Holmes Protection Group, the US electronic security business with a London quotation. Figures for 1986 show an increase in taxable profits from \$11.03 million (£6.57 million) to \$14.01 million, though out of this comes a non-recurring \$208,000 deferred debt write-off. Group turnover was \$53.1 million (£33.6 million). Earnings rose from 16.6 cents a share to 21.1 cents. The dividend is raised from 2.2 cents to 2.6 cents with a 1.65 cents final.

STOCK MARKET

Oils shine on Opec price accord hopes

By Michael Clark

Oil shares were the only bright in an unsettled market-place yesterday, boosted by reports that oil prices around the world are starting to climb.

Dealers reported a big turnover of the leading independent producers as hopes grew that Opec would be able to reach agreement on a price of about \$20 a barrel at next month's meeting in Geneva. Among the leaders, BP climbed by 9p to 339p in its new, streamlined form as a total of 18 million shares were traded. There was also plenty of support for its big rival, Shell, 20p dearer at £12.43, as turnover reached almost 6 million shares.

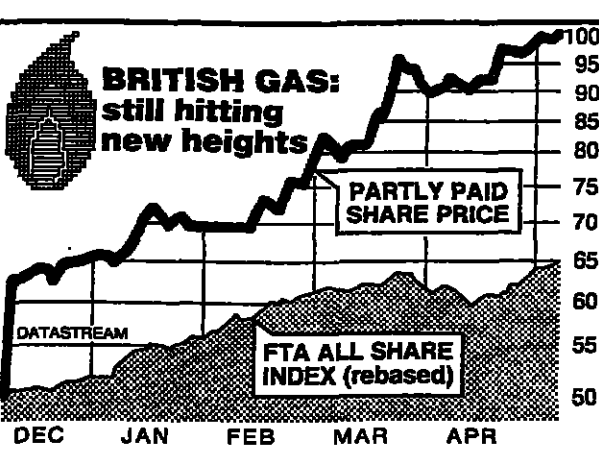
There has been an increased demand for petrol, industrial fuels, aviation spirit and heavy oil used in power stations. This should cheer Opec and confirm that its attempts at controlling the price and supplies of crude oil are proving effective. Demand is expected to continue growing with production from the North Sea slowing down because of the annual maintenance of the rigs.

Other oil shares were also singled out for support, although prices closed below their best levels of the day. British rose by 8p to 252p, Barmah, 2p to 465p, Enterprise, 3p to 245p, Lasso, 16p to 260p and Ultramar, 6p to 231p.

But attempts by the rest of the equity market at extending its record-breaking run ended in failure. Prices recovered after a hesitant start and were soon powering ahead. At one stage, the FT-SE 100 share index breached the 2,100 level, but it was unable to consolidate its position and soon started to drift as the account began to draw to a close. It eventually closed 8.6 down at 2,077.9. The FT index of 30 shares also closed 12.5 lower, at 1,628.0, having been 8.1 up earlier.

Dealers explained that investors had chosen to keep a low profile ahead of the local government elections and were anxious not to open any new positions.

Government securities put up a solid performance, still looking for another cut in interest rates. Prices at the



longer end managed to wipe out early falls of 1/2%, to close with net gains of up to 1/4%.

Ladbroke, the betting, property and leisure group, again opened lower, still reeling from the numerous rumours which have depressed the shares this week and have wiped about £150 million from the group's stock market value. But the price rallied

● Reckitt & Coleman enjoyed solid support, climbing 14p to £10.33, after £10.50, following Wednesday night's meeting with analysts in the City. Brokers attending described it as a "professional job" with the group hinting at good profits growth.

later in the day, after Charterhouse Bank, Ladbroke's financial adviser, announced that the Stock Exchange had been asked to carry out an official inquiry into the "unusual dealings" in the shares over the past few days.

They eventually closed 7p higher at 398p compared with the 439p they were trading at last week when the stories first started to circulate as more than 7 million shares changed hands.

There was further heavy turnover in GEC as the shares advanced by another 3p to 214p on continuing talk that a stakebuilding exercise was under way by one of the big corporate raiders. Almost 32 million shares were traded, bringing the total so far this week to 68.3 million, worth about £146 million.

British Gas, dubbed the

TEMPUS

Harris Queensway furnishes changes

Harris Queensway does not go far out of its way to help the City analyse its business. Arguably it would be in the company's own interest to be more forthcoming, thus enabling analysts to acquire a better feel for the business.

Otherwise, the recent pattern of high forecasts, based on sketchy knowledge, which are downgraded as the year progresses, will continue. And it is clear that this practice has not done much for the share price.

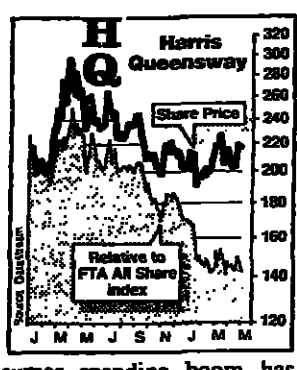
Last year was one of considerable corporate activity. Thoms, Times Furnishing, Hamleys and Harveys were all bought and £71.6 million was raised in a rights issue. The number of outlets, including new openings, increased from 756 to 1315 and the group has the potential to turn over £800 million a year.

Satisfactory progress was made during the year with the important exception of electricals where profits slumped by £7 million into the red. This bad performance was, apparently, primarily due to stock problems caused by the premature installation of a new computer.

The core businesses, excluding electricals, grew by about 20 per cent.

Earnings per share, excluding property profits, made no progress because of the increased share capital. There is scope this year to enhance new acquisitions, but a question mark still hangs over electricals.

It is a mystery why the furniture market has remained so unresponsive to the public's needs. The con-



sumer spending boom has passed it by virtually untouched. Under new management, Harris Queensway plans a shake up by widening the product range and providing a proper customer-oriented service.

The current year has started well. Harris Queensway outlets alone are already 40 per cent ahead. Pretax profits before property could touch £70 million with earnings per share advancing by at least 15 per cent. However, until the upgraded management team makes it clear what the group's longer term strategy is, the shares are unlikely to rise above last year's rights price of 225p without attracting sellers.

Utd Scientific Holdings

The market has been quick to recognise the recovery in the underlying business of United Scientific Holdings, a defence contractor. In the last year, the share price has outperformed the market by 48 per cent and it now stands

at 258p. The first solid evidence of the extent of the turnaround is revealed in yesterday's results.

First-half pretax profits, to March 31, were £4.1 million compared with a loss of just under £1 million last year. The key to the improvement has been the transformation in the US. Losses have been eliminated and Optic Electronic, its US subsidiary, contributed £500,000.

The backlog of pre-1985, low-margin orders has been steadily reducing and now stand at \$52 million (£30 million) out of a total US order book of \$140 million.

The group hopes to improve profitability on these remaining orders by increased efficiency. The group as a whole has an order book of £300 million, which gives it cover, not just for the whole of this year but also for about three-quarters of next year, too, an unheard of luxury for USH.

Analysts are looking for a pretax profit of £10.5 million for the full year. This excludes a gain of at least £5 million on the sale of 15 per cent of its subsidiary, Avimo Singapore, into the Singapore stock market last month.

At the current quoted price, the 65 per cent USH still owns is worth about £55 million.

USH itself is priced at a prospective multiple of 18.5, a premium to the British market of 25 per cent. It is difficult to see the shares making much headway from these levels and there may even be a bit of profit-taking now that the results are out.

Retrovir test results near

The market may receive confirmation sooner than it expects that the damaging side effects of Retrovir, Wellcome's Aids drug, can be limited.

It appears that trials on Aids patients using Zovirax, the herpes drug, in combination with Retrovir have recently been completed in the United States by the National Institute of Health and the collated results are ready for publication.

There could soon, therefore, be strong documented evidence of the synergistic effect of combining Retrovir with Zovirax.

It had already been observed that Aids patients on Retrovir who were also taking Zovirax for herpes seemed to do better than Aids patients on Retrovir alone.

Subsequent laboratory tests confirmed these findings and the next stage was to conduct controlled trials on humans.

The US trials were conducted on a limited number of patients. Wellcome, however, is conducting its own trials with a larger number, divided into three groups.

All three groups are being given Retrovir at half the dosage received by the patients in the original trials, which tested the efficacy of Retrovir alone.

In combination with this, each group is being given Zovirax four times a day, in doses of 200 milligrams, 400 milligrams and 800 milligrams respectively.

The results of these trials are not expected for a year. The results, however, of

the admittedly more limited US trials appear to be ready and Dr Jonathan de Pass, pharmaceuticals analyst at Flemings Research, is pretty confident that they will be favourable.

The key question, however, is how favourable and how significant.

It is of vital importance to Wellcome to reduce the toxicity of Retrovir, otherwise it will, in time, be superseded by other drugs. The irony is that Zovirax, also made by Wellcome, is a higher margin drug than Retrovir.

It appears from the NIH trials that the most effective dose is 800 milligrams four times a day. This would cost approximately \$4,000 (£2,370) a year and the half dose of Retrovir would cost about the same again.



HOTELS

Queens Moat Houses

- Pre-tax profits increased 42%
- Earnings per share up 20%
- Dividends raised 20%
- Assets per share up 47%
- Increase in bedrooms 47%

Through acquisitions in the UK and on the Continent and by extending existing hotels and opening new ones, 24 hotels with 2,556 bedrooms have been added to the network since the beginning of 1986. The Group now consists of 88 hotels with 7,969 bedrooms.

The full benefit of these additions, which made only a small contribution to the 1986 results, will begin to show in the current year and trading conditions continue to be favourable.

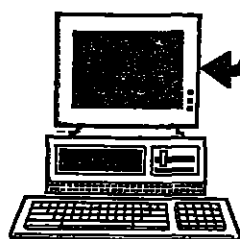
- Prospects for 1987 are excellent

Growth achieved over 5 years

	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982
Turnover (£'000)	100,929	72,050	59,250	43,359	31,295
Profit before tax (£'000)	14,916	10,508	6,580	4,475	2,780
Earnings per share (p)	4.40	3.68	3.02	2.22	1.95
Dividends per share (p)	1.60	1.33	1.11	0.92	0.84
Assets per share (p)	78.0	53.2	35.5	29.9	25.2

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Former chairman found guilty of discreditable and detrimental conduct

Lloyd's censures Sir Peter Green

By John Bell, City Editor

The Lloyd's insurance market has censured its former chairman Sir Peter Green after a lengthy and complex disciplinary procedure found him guilty of discreditable and detrimental conduct. He was fined a total of £32,500 and required to pay £37,500 towards the cost of the proceedings which totalled £102,000.

The charges related to Sir Peter's role in the operation of reinsurance policies placed on behalf of syndicates managed by his firm, Janson Green. Mr Geoffrey Valentine, a colleague of Sir Peter's at Janson Green, was also fined £7,500 in connection with the same events and asked to pay a further £37,500 towards Lloyd's costs.

The charges against both men involved no allegation of dishonesty or lack of good faith, said the findings of the investigation. The charges alleged failures to declare interests in an offshore company which received premiums from Janson Green syndicates, failures to account for benefits received from the offshore company, Imperial Cayman, and inadequate disclosure to Lloyd's.

Sir Peter received benefits of £182,000 (£108,333) as a shareholder in Imperial and has told his names that he is willing to account for it fully, return it to them or pay it to charity.

The chairman of Janson Green, Mr William Maitland, yesterday revealed that the combined boards of the group had passed a unanimous vote of total confidence in Sir Peter and Mr Valentine. "The punishment meted out to them has been heavy in the light of all the facts," said Mr Maitland.

In a letter to his names and agents, Sir Peter said that he was saddened and sorry that he should have to write a letter setting out the background to the inquiry. He was relieved that his name had been cleared of the innuendo of dishonesty and bad faith to which he had been subjected for so long.

The findings of the Lloyd's inquiry state that as early as 1975 Sir Peter was aware of the conflict of interest involved in his acting for both his syndicates and for Imperial. Sir Peter and Mr Valentine did not at all times consider whether the return credited to syndicates continued to be equitable.

The principal charge against Sir Peter related to the terms of the reinsurance placed with Imperial and alleged acts or omissions discreditable to him as an underwriter. The Lloyd's disciplinary committee concluded that there was a clear conflict.

As an experienced underwriter he owed his names, Janson Green and Lloyd's a duty to ensure that the interests of his names were protected. He failed to make certain that the terms of a certain major policy were reviewed at least annually and he failed to delegate his duty to his names to someone else. At one point the benefits of the arrangements to Imperial were obviously excessive, the findings said.

Though the disciplinary committee was critical of Sir Peter's actions, he was found not guilty of discreditable conduct in respect of the non-disclosure of his conflict of interest. Sir Peter was also found not guilty of discreditable conduct over the failure to account to his names for the benefit he received from Imperial.

The Lloyd's appeal tribunal, headed by Lord Wilberforce, dismissed Sir Peter's appeal over the major charge. Lord Wilberforce said that the responsibilities of someone at Lloyd's such as Sir Peter were very great. The whole relationship of a name and an underwriter depended on trust. Failure on the part of a person charged with such responsibilities had to be regarded with greater severity than a failure of administration.



Sir Peter: relieved to be cleared of innuendo of dishonesty

Lines become crossed in Eurotunnel liaison

Paris in the spring, romance is in the air, but the happy union between Eurotunnel and the railways remains thwarted by protracted negotiations over hard cash. Though together in spirit — both British Rail and SNCF, the French state railway, are just as keen as Eurotunnel on a fixed rail link — the parties remain estranged over the question of how much the railways should pay for capacity on the proposed tunnel and what proportion should be handed over monthly in advance.

Talks resumed yesterday in Paris amid confusion over whether a new deadline had been set for agreement. French transport ministry officials were reported as saying the transport minister Jacques Douffignies wanted negotiations to finish by May 31. Eurotunnel insisted that any suggestion of a deadline from the minister was "mistaken". The French ministry later said there was no May 31 deadline. The French timescale, if it exists at all, may even be referring to completely separate talks covering the proposed high speed TGV train route between Paris and Brussels that will link in with the cross-Channel service.

Formal deadline or not, Eurotunnel has an extremely tight schedule over the next few months, even now that the public share offer has been delayed from July until the autumn. The rail agreement, which should have been concluded by the end of last year, has missed two "deadlines" in the past week and is unlikely to be concluded before the middle of this month.

The delay is holding up syndication of the £5 billion loan package which Eurotunnel needs to finalize in June. It could also push back so-called Equity 3A in July, the raising of a further £75 million of finance from existing shareholders to tide the project over the summer months. Time is clearly on British Rail's side in this game of brinkmanship. Eurotunnel must secure better terms to impress its bankers but cannot afford to wait too long.

Talks will continue through the weekend, in Paris and London. Eurotunnel remains tight-lipped about the process while British Rail continues to claim that progress is being made. Whether this is a guide to whom is making the compromises remains to be seen.

The top level Paris meeting on Tuesday between Sir Bob Reid, chairman of British Rail, and Alastair Morton, Eurotunnel's British co-chairman, involved a detailed discussion of terms but failed to find a formula for agreement. Both men are now back in London, squarely in their corners. Mr Morton, who inherited from his predecessors an over-generous outline agree-

ment signed with the railways last September, has met his match.

After the trials and tribulations of the past six months and the barrage of criticism that Eurotunnel has had to bear, there is more than slight irony that such a serious hold-up is prompted by disagreement with the best supporter the tunnel has. A crisis may be a matter of weeks away — especially with an election looming.

Vienna's new waltz

Austria believes in putting heavy responsibilities on young ministerial shareholders. In June last year, at the tender age of 43, Ferdinand Lacina became Federal Minister of Finance where the headaches, although less sharp than Kurt Waldheim's, are more complex. Austria has an economic and financial problem: exports have stopped growing, partly because the schilling, tied to the West German mark, has risen as the dollar has declined; expansion has given way to stagnation; unemployment is rising; and the federal budget is in deficit (to the tune of 3.1 per cent of gross domestic product last year). Austria now has a coalition government and, it believes, a consensus to put things right. The first priorities are the budget deficit and the outmoded structure of Austrian industry which hitherto has lived contentedly in its comfortable, old fashioned and domesticated way.

Mr Lacina's job is thus no sinecure. Instructively he is in London to address a conference today on the development of the Austrian capital market, which is still mainly a medium for selling government debt to Germans, Swiss and Japanese. Austria needs a wider and more flexible capital market (tax reforms designed to remove obstacles to the transfer of securities are actively contemplated) if it is to bring an international dimension to Austrian manufacturing and financial services and succeed in a Thatcher-model privatization programme.

Denationalization — not easy in a country with a recent legacy of Soviet control and Communist shop-stewards — is part of Mr Lacina's brief. He has a programme, starting with oil and peripheral parts of State electricity, which should raise about £1 billion in revenue. The two Siemens successor companies in Austria are an encouraging example of the practical benefits of privatization, but only up to a point: they were largely sold to Siemens of West Germany and the Austrian government still has a stake.

But the medicine does work, as we have seen here. The minister's main problem will be to get Austrians to become private capitalists in a country that could well become fertile ground for foreign equity investment.

EEC wins support on Japanese curbs

By Colin Narborough

The European Court of Justice in Luxembourg, yesterday gave legal backing to the Community's drive to prevent Japan from competing unfairly in the European Economic Community.

The court rejected an appeal by Nippon Seiko, Koyo Seiko, Minebea Company, Toyo Bearing Company and Nachi Fujikoshi Corporation against anti-dumping duties on high-tech ball-bearings.

The five companies disputed allegations of dumping and had appealed to the court to overturn an EEC decision to impose penal duties.

But the court upheld the Community's right to impose duties of between 4 per cent and almost 15 per cent, introduced three years ago, on small ball bearings the companies exported to Europe.

Ferranti in agreed bid for DBE

By Michael Tate

Ferranti is making an agreed £3.1 million takeover bid for DBE Technology Group, the USM-quoted underwater electro-acoustics group, at substantially below the company's stock market value.

The bid price reflects a deterioration in DBE's recent trading experience after delays in orders from the Ministry of Defence, its main customer.

Unaudited management figures suggest a turnover of £4.8 million and a trading result of "approximately break-even" for the year ended March 31.

Ferranti, which has held a 9 per cent stake in DBE since its arrival on the USM in 1985, is offering 275 of its own shares for every 1,000 DBE, valuing each DBE at 33p. This is below the stock market price of 43p.

Jobless fall 'will be temporary'

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

The drop in unemployment will be temporary, says the latest Oxford Economic Forecasting prediction.

The level of unemployment is expected to fall below 3 million by the summer and to 2.9 million by the end of the year, mainly due to the expansion of special employment measures.

The level, however, will edge back up above 3 million next year and rise further in 1989, the forecast says.

The projections, based on the continuation of present policies, also see the current account in deficit this year by £0.8 billion, widening to £2 billion next year and £3.8 billion in 1989, despite a slowdown in growth from 2.7 per cent this year to 2.1 per cent in 1988 and 1.7 per cent in 1989.

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Dwck Group	25p	120p	+380%
Burdene Inv	20p	91p	+355%
Audiocronic	4p	18p	+350%
Paul Michael	18p	65p	+266%
Hobson	10p	48p	+380%
Campani Intl	26p	107p	+311%

Remember, these companies are still trading and they often have quite sizeable assets. Apart from the very few that do 'go to the wall' — and they really are surprisingly few — the only way a share price that has fallen to mere pennies to go is up.

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Building materials output soars

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Britain's construction materials industry — whose fortunes are a key reflection of the state of the economy — is on course for a near record year with output approaching the boom years of the early 1970s.

The industry, which produces crushed rock, ready-mixed concrete, road surface materials and sand and gravel, increased its sales by up to a fifth in the first quarter of this year and is hard-pressed to meet demand from builders in some areas.

The British Aggregate Construction Materials Industries (BACMI) said yesterday that the latest figures reflected "a genuine upturn in construction demand".

This was boosted by moderate weather and customer spending at the end of the financial year.

In the year to March, sales of crushed rock increased by 13 per cent, sand and gravel by 7 per cent, road surfacing materials by 13 per cent and ready-mixed concrete by 6 per cent.

Mr Robert Phillipson, the BACMI director-general, said the industry's health was "very good". Basic construction materials tended not to be bought for stock, so a big upsurge in buying was a clear indication of a buoyant building industry.

He said: "There is solid demand for construction and even in the public sector, there are genuine reasons for not seeing it fall further. But we

want steady growth, not boom and bust."

BACMI is confident that with construction output expected to increase by at least 3 per cent this year, the materials sector will continue to increase its own output and the market will not be affected by a change in government.

The South-east, South-west and West-Midlands have shown the most rapid growth in construction since 1981, with Wales, Scotland, Yorkshire and Humberside remaining relatively depressed.

Now there is an easier route to Penny Share success. Each month the Penny Share Focus team of analysts condense days of research into a four page no nonsense action guide. Its sole aim... to provide investors like you with opportunities for big capital gains. By carefully monitoring every Penny Share on the market... by changing masses of financial and company data by making painstaking enquiries into the company's management, sometimes even visiting their offices, PENNY SHARE FOCUS helps you to spot the next Penny Share winner, and keeps you clear of the losers.

WHAT ARE PENNY SHARES... and why is their record so good? A Penny Share is quite simply a share that you can buy for mere pennies. The shares are cheap because the City has lost confidence in the company's ability to make profits. It could be because of poor management, adverse trading conditions, or just plain bad luck. But the slump in the price of the shares means something has to be done... something has to change.

In some cases the company may be restructured, new management installed, new products launched, new ideas and techniques introduced. Alternatively, the company's shares may be so cheap that a rival company moves in to take them over. Or a successful private company might buy them out as a cheap way in to the stockmarket. Whatever happens, it's

David Trippier, the small firms minister, has been campaigning to get more women into key jobs in small business counselling because so many infant firms are run by women. It has taken 12 months but there are now 10 women, an improvement on the original two, among the hand-holding counsellors in the Department of Employment's small firms service with its chain of regional offices. At the Manpower Services Commission, which also answers to the department, the two people responsible for the enterprise allowance and training for enterprise schemes are, too, Trippier's satisfaction, women — Mrs Margaret Thomas and Miss Sandra Newton. The Trippier predilection for moving the women in has now extended to his own front office. Four women to one man and all apparently going well. But it's all in reverse at home in Rossendale, Lancashire. Trippier's wife, Ruth, is a barrister — "self-employed, a classic small business," as he describes it. He said: "Trouble is, she brings her Value Added Tax problems home at the weekend for me to solve."

● The latest edition of the personal finance magazine Money Management covers the endowment policy results of a company called Refuse Assurance. Does that make the people who go round for the premiums refuse collectors?

Ray Heath

Ripping up the red tape

Lord Young, the employment secretary, has ordered a progress report on how far Whitehall has been getting rid of red tape since the Government decided to lighten this load on businesses, especially the small ones. A lot of worthy statistics will be wheeled out shortly, in time for the election no doubt, like the fact that since 1982 well over 2,000 various forms have been scrapped, never again to blight the lives of business managers. Another 3,000-odd have been redesigned, with some new ones that make it a lot easier for employers to draw up such documents as health and safety policy statements and terms and conditions of employment. Work on de-regulation is still going on — amen to that — with licensing now coming in for a hard look. This is because businesses often need a licence before they can start trading, usually from a local authority or a Government department. One idea is to issue licences for three years instead of only one. Betting and liquor licences may be simplified in this way. Apparently radio licensing will be streamlined. But ultimate freedom is on hand for hawkers and peddlars. Abolition of the Pedlars Acts is planned which require those gentlemen of the police certificate from their trade. The Whitehall line is that this is an example of out-dated controls which demand a change in the law. But we know it is a bid for the pedlar vote.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Money in the bank

The clearing banks seem to be entering a new era in public relations — at least as far as money is concerned. The word around Lombard Street is that James Poole, PR man extraordinaire for Trafalgar House and an erstwhile incumbent at Lloyds Bank, is returning to the clearing bank beat. He is

soon to take over the Barclays Bank PR operation. And Barclays is obviously keen to have him. On top of the usual perks of car and mortgage, the bank is said to be paying Poole a cool £70,000 a year for presenting the right side of Barclays. Eurobond dealers, move over...

million in December 1984, to 1.6 million a year ago. It would have been hard, and perhaps unwise, for BA's small shareholders to resist taking profits from the rise from 65p to 158p in the partly paid shares, which have been snapped up by institutions.



"I spent so long dithering over who to vote for, I was too late to dither over how many Rolls-Royce shares to buy"

Wearing the trousers

David Trippier, the small firms minister, has been campaigning to get more women into key jobs in small business counselling because so many infant firms are run by women. It has taken 12 months but there are now 10 women, an improvement on the original two, among the hand-holding counsellors in the Department of Employment's small firms service with its chain of regional offices. At the Manpower Services Commission, which also answers to the department, the two people responsible for the enterprise allowance and training for enterprise schemes are, too, Trippier's satisfaction, women — Mrs Margaret Thomas and Miss Sandra Newton. The Trippier predilection for moving the women in has now extended to his own front office. Four women to one man and all apparently going well. But it's all in reverse at home in Rossendale, Lancashire. Trippier's wife, Ruth, is a barrister — "self-employed, a classic small business," as he describes it. He said: "Trouble is, she brings her Value Added Tax problems home at the weekend for me to solve."

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Ray Heath

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Kennedy Brookes to raise £16m for hotels expansion

Shareholders in Kennedy Brookes are being asked for £16 million so that the group can buy more country house hotels and take the Wheeler's fish restaurant chain nationwide.

The group underlined its intentions yesterday with the acquisition for £3.4 million of County Hotel (Cotswolds), which runs the Hotel de la Bere and Courtyard Club at Cheltenham, between the golf course and the racecourse.

Kennedy Brookes, which also runs the Mario & Franco and Crusts restaurant chains in London and the South, is offering shareholders two new shares for every seven held at a price of 265p a share. This compares with a stock market price of 321p just before the announcement.

Mr Michael Golder, the chairman, said yesterday that he intended to more than double the number of Wheeler's restaurants within the next three years, with establishments in cities such as Edinburgh, York, Chester, Bristol, Oxford and Cambridge. There are 22 Wheeler's restaurants at present, all in London and the South.

Most of the money, however, will be used to acquire hotels of character for the group's distinctive Inns offshoot and to improve and enlarge those it already owns. These include England's oldest hotel, the Old Bell at Hurley in Berkshire, and the 16th century Ghyll Manor in Sussex.

The group plans to double the 46 rooms at the Hotel de la Bere, which is Tudor mansion.

Mr Golder said: "There is

COMPANY NEWS

tremendous competition for high quality hotels and restaurants or premises with development potential. The greater financial flexibility we gain by this rights issue will enable acquisitions and developments to proceed more rapidly."

The Kennedy Brookes directors will invest £1 million of their own money in new shares, with Mr Golder personally applying for 100,000 — "as many as I can afford".

In brief

● **PRUDENTIAL CORP:** A subsidiary, Prudential Property Services, has acquired a further Kent company, Parsons, Welch and Cowell, which has residential sales offices in Tonbridge, Sevenoaks and Otford. The total number of outlets under regional control is now 39. PPS has also agreed to acquire Claude Elmer, with eight residential sales offices in the Hull area. This will bring the total of residential estate agency outlets in the East Midlands and Yorkshire region to 51 and the total operating nationally to 440. Elmer's 30 staff have completed around 700 residential property sales over the last year, worth in excess of £20 million.

● **PRESTWICH HOLDINGS:** The company has sold its remaining 20 per cent holding in the Healy Optical Group to Coopers for £3 million cash.

● **NURDIN AND PEACOCK:** Total dividend 4.85p (4.05p) for the year to January 3. With figures in £000: Turnover 839,343 (727,771). Pretax profit 17,647 (15,717). Earnings per share 14.7p (12.3p). One-for-four scrip issue proposed.

● **JITRA RUBBER PLANTATIONS:** Dividend 0.8p (0.7p) for 1986. With figures in £000: Pretax profit on ordinary activities 255 (184). Earnings per share 1.71p (1.16p).

● **CD BRAMALL:** In response to the open offer, shareholders applied for 737,976 new ordinary shares at 265p each (54.3 per cent of the 1.35 million shares subject to the offer, in connection with the acquisition of Gelco International).

● **CAPITAL RADIO:** Half-year to March 31. Interim dividend 2p (1.4p). With figures in £000: Turnover 10,020 (8,955). Pretax profit 1,536 (824). Earnings per share 6.3p (3.2p).

● **GREAT PORTLAND ESTATES:** The company is raising £40 million by a further tranche of its 9.5 per cent first mortgage debenture stock, 2016.

● **MIL RESEARCH GROUP:** Year to January 31. With figures in £000: Turnover 12,640 (9,643). Pretax profit 1,614 (722). Earnings per share weighted average — 10.8p (3.6p).

● **COLINE INTERNATIONAL:** Terms have been agreed for the acquisition of Test Probes, a private company, based in California and Helvetia Automatic Products, a private company, based in London. The initial cost of the acquisition of Test will be about £587,000, payable on January 31, 1988. The initial sum is to be satisfied by a placing of new Coline shares. The deferred element of the consideration will be satisfied by 181,554 new shares or, if greater, a number of new shares which would, if placed on the date of allotment, raise £750,000 in cash.

● **DAVIES AND METCALFE:** No dividend for 1986. With figures in £000: Turnover 10,106 (8,822). Pretax loss 653 (286). Loss per share 10.8p (4.0p).

● **FORWARD GROUP:** No dividend for the year to January 31. With figures in £000: Turnover 3,300 (2,432). Pretax profit on ordinary activities 912 (558) against the forecast of 900. The directors intend to commence payment of dividends with an interim in December. Indications from the printed circuit board industry suggest an overall growth in the market which will provide an excellent platform for the company's specialist prototype and small batch production. Turnover in the first three months of the current year has shown a substantial increase over the corresponding period last year.

● **RELYON GROUP:** The directors have concluded an agreement to purchase Duncan Tucker for £1.04 million in cash. Tucker is a private company, based in west Dorset with extensive woodworking experience.

● **CITY OF OXFORD INVESTMENT TRUST:** Total dividend 1.75p (1.6p) for the year to March 31. With figures in £000: Revenue before tax 506 (477). Earnings per share 1.76p (1.61p).

● **MINITY:** No dividend (1p) for the year to January 31. With figures in £000: Turnover 3,424 (2,874). Pretax operating loss 105 (150). Extraordinary item (capital profit on the sale of land and buildings) nil (100,778). Loss per share 21.50p (25.25p).

● **R SMALLSHAW (KNITWEAR):** Total dividend unchanged at 2.75p for 1986. With figures in £000: Turnover 9,691 (10,290). Pretax profit 414 (411). Extraordinary charges 347,945 (nil). Earnings per share, before extraordinary items, 10.75p (11.01p).

● **TIGER OATS:** Six months to March 31. Interim dividend 124 cents (105 cents), pay about July 14. Turnover £2.14 million (£1,855.7 million). Pretax profit £17.8 million (£160.5 million). Earnings per share 439 cents (371 cents).

Gabicci's second buy in a month

By Joe Joseph

Gabicci, the north London menswear designer, importer and supplier, yesterday announced its second acquisition in a month.

The USM-listed company, which specialises in knitwear, is paying an initial £5 million in new shares for Grandson Casualwear, a knitwear designer and supplier which has recently added shirts, trousers and jackets to its catalogue of men's and boys' clothing.

The deal could cost up to £5.75 million if Grandson, which sells half its turnover to high street multiple retailers like Burtons, meets agreed profit targets this year and next. Mr David Bendel will remain managing director of Grandson and will join Gabicci's board.

Grandson's directors are keeping most of the new shares but have arranged to place 1.4 million with institutional investors to raise £2 million. Gabicci is also placing a further 1.1 million shares to raise about £1.25 million for additional working capital and to reduce borrowings.

Because of the size of the placing compared with Gabicci's existing issued share capital, all the new shares that have been conditionally placed will first be made available to Gabicci shareholders on the basis of 37 for every 100 shares held.

Last month Gabicci, which reported pretax profits of £362,000 in the half-year to December, paid £1.15 million for Shemesh Fabrics, a Manchester garment manufacturer.

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£88.37	£105.66	£126.34	£151.07	£180.63

* Assumes your Capital Gains Tax allowance of £6,000 is not exceeded. All figures are based on an average annual growth rate achieved, including reinvestment of dividends, and on an offer on bid basis. In certain circumstances this may result in a depreciation in capital as it is based on the selling of units without an over-valuation. It should be remembered that past performance cannot necessarily be taken as a guide to the future as unit values can fall as well as rise.

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APPOINTMENTS

Dearing will join Whitbread board

Whitbread: Sir Ronald Dearing joins the board as a non-executive director on June 1.

Eagle Star Group: The following appointments have been made in the new life and investment management services (UK) division: Mr RE Bramblecombe becomes chief executive. Mr BR Cranston becomes divisional director, management services. Mr JG Douglas becomes divisional director, sales and marketing. Mr RF Hubbard becomes divisional director, pensions and operations. Mr AJ Russell becomes divisional director, actuarial and finance.

Sinclair Goldsmith Rating Services: Mr Michael Moon, Mr John Woodhouse and Mr Richard Halstead become directors.

Tefal UK: Mr Francis Thompson joins as management services director.

Valin Pollen: Mr John Williams joins the board.

Hillier Parker: Mr John Parmer, Mr Geoffrey Dale, Mr Patrick Morrissey and Mr Brian Raggett join the partnership. Mr RP Green, Mr IR Capon, Mr AR Winter, Mr DA Bickmore, Mr AS Wilson, Mr OP Davies, Mr RC Clarke, Mr JB Clifton-Brown, Mr C Rice, Mr CJ Pickering, Mr CJJ Osmond and Mr D Bridgen become associate partners. Dr RK Schiller is made managing director of Hillier Parker Research.

Vickers: Mr BG Denton becomes chief executive of the Comforto Vickers division.

Food From Britain: Mr Walter Goldsmith succeeds Mr Nicholas Saphir as chairman.

Aberfoyle Holdings: Mr Brian Gill joins the board and becomes managing director.

Commodore International Travel: Mr Miles Reinhold becomes chairman.

Barclays de Zoete Wedd Capital Markets: Mr Alan Wood and Mr Malcolm Walley become directors.

Jebsons (UK)/Jebsons Maritime Investments/Jebsons Shipping: Mr Ian McBroom becomes managing director and Mr John Small company secretary.

Motil Plastics: Mr Robert Bates is made managing director.

Fraser Williams Group: Mr Paul Mitchell-Doggett becomes marketing and public relations director.

Boodle Hatfield: Mr David Snoxall becomes a partner in the intellectual property department.

Mrs Jean Denton

British Nuclear Fuels: Mrs Jean Denton has joined the board as a part-time, non-executive director.

Authority Investments: Mr Robin Crichton becomes a non-executive director.

Alexanders Discount: Mr PL Fava becomes managing director, and Mr MDB Frewer manager.

Alexanders Laing & Cruickshank Gilts: Mr CP Edwards, Mr TJ Griffiths, Mr PAJ Hills and Mr RK Mannes become directors.

Marshall Woollworth (Deposits): Mr Alan Brown, Mr Ronald Carton, Mr Robert King and Mr Ian Stoppani join the board as directors.

Sinks Stern and Partners: Mr PC McGarrick, Miss MC Dodman and Mr S Heffer become partners.

Core Laboratories: Mr Paul Fee has been named president.

Henry Ansbacher & Co: Mr David Hudson has been appointed deputy chairman and chief executive from July 1. He will join the board of Henry Ansbacher Holdings on the same date.

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	9.50%
Adam & Company	9.50%
BCCI	9.50%
Citibank Savings	12.45%
Consolidated Cds	9.50%
Co-operative Bank	9.50%
C. Hoare & Co	9.50%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	9.50%
Lloyds Bank	9.50%
Nat Westminster	9.50%
Royal Bank of Scotland	9.50%
TSB	9.50%
Citibank NA	9.50%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

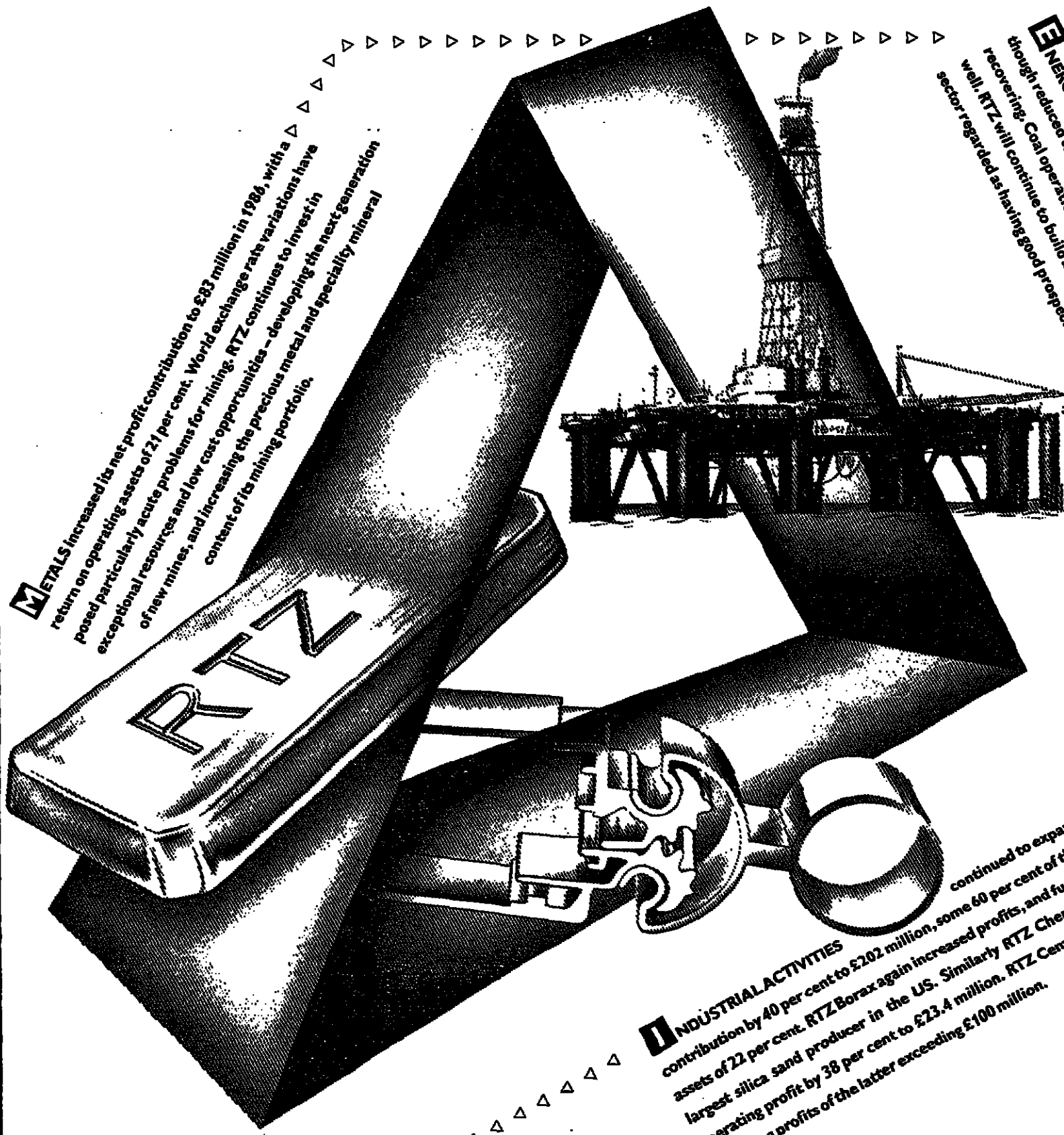
NOTICE TO INVESTORS

With effect from 9th May 1987 the rate of interest on Shares and Deposits will be reduced by 1.00% p.a., with the exception of Bonus Share Plus Accounts with balances below £10,000 which will reduce by 0.85% p.a.

Colchester Building Society

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THE THREE DIMENSIONAL STRENGTH OF RTZ



Metals increased its net profit contribution to £23 million in 1986, with a return on operating assets of 21 per cent. World exchange rate variations have posed particularly acute problems for mining. RTZ continues to invest in exceptional resources and low cost opportunities — developing the next generation of new mines and increasing the precious metal and specialty mineral content of its mining portfolio.

ENERGY achieved a return on operating assets of 24 per cent, and profits, though reduced to a net £51 million due to the 1986 oil price collapse, are recovering. Coal operations suffered far less, and uranium continued to perform well. RTZ will continue to build a competitive presence in energy resources — a sector regarded as having good prospects in the medium and long term.

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES

contribution by 40 per cent to £202 million, some 60 per cent of the total and a return on operating assets of 22 per cent. RTZ Borax again increased profits, and further acquisitions have made it the largest silica sand producer in the US. Similarly RTZ Cement and RTZ Pillar performed well, operating profits of the latter exceeding £100 million.

1986 PRE-TAX PROFIT: £602 MILLION (1985 £614 MILLION).
1986 NET ATTRIBUTABLE PROFIT: £245 MILLION (1985 £257 MILLION), 1986 GROUP TURNOVER: £4.34 BILLION

(UP £109 MILLION OVER 1985), UNDERLINING RTZ'S THREE DIMENSIONAL RESILIENCE AND STRENGTH, PARTICULARLY IN ITS EXPANDING INDUSTRIAL BUSINESS. EARNINGS PER SHARE: 78.91p (83.05p IN 1985), 1986 TOTAL FINAL DIVIDEND: 23.5p (22.0p IN 1985).

FOR A COPY OF THE 1986 RTZ ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS PLEASE WRITE TO: CENTRAL REGISTRATION LIMITED, 1 REDCLIFF STREET, BRISTOL BS1 6NT.

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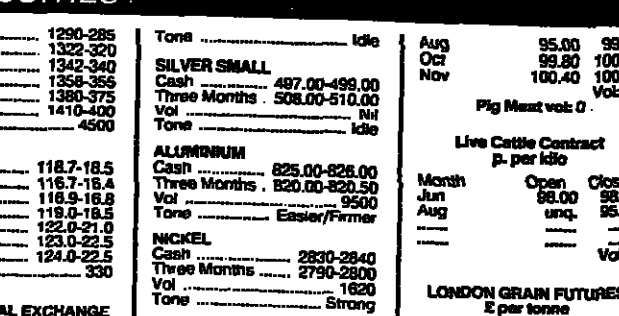
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INVEST

1987			Price			Gross YTD			1987		
High	Low	Company	Per	Offer	Change	%	P/E		High	Low	Company
139	125	Alcoa	155	169	0	34.9	21	35.5	239	207	Goodyear
120	85	Alcan	173	193	0	24.3	23	21.1	230	216	Graphic
105	75	Alcoa	185	205	0	1.8	21	21.5	231	217	Graphic
105	75	Alcoa	185	205	0	1.8	21	21.5	232	218	Graphic
105	75	Alcoa	185	205	0	1.8	21	21.5	233	219	Graphic
105	75	Alcoa	185	205	0	1.8	21	21.5	234	220	Graphic
105	75	Alcoa	185	205	0	1.8	21	21.5	235	221	Graphic
105	75	Alcoa	185	205	0	1.8	21	21.5	236	222	Graphic
105	75	Alcoa	185	205	0	1.8	21	21.5	237	223	Graphic
105	75	Alcoa	185	205	0	1.8	21	21.5	238	224	Graphic
105	75	Alcoa	185	205	0	1.8	21	21.5	239	225	Graphic
105	75	Alcoa	185	205	0	1.8	21	21.5	240	226	Graphic
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OVER SEVEN
OVER SEVEN
PRINTED

SIXTY-FOUR

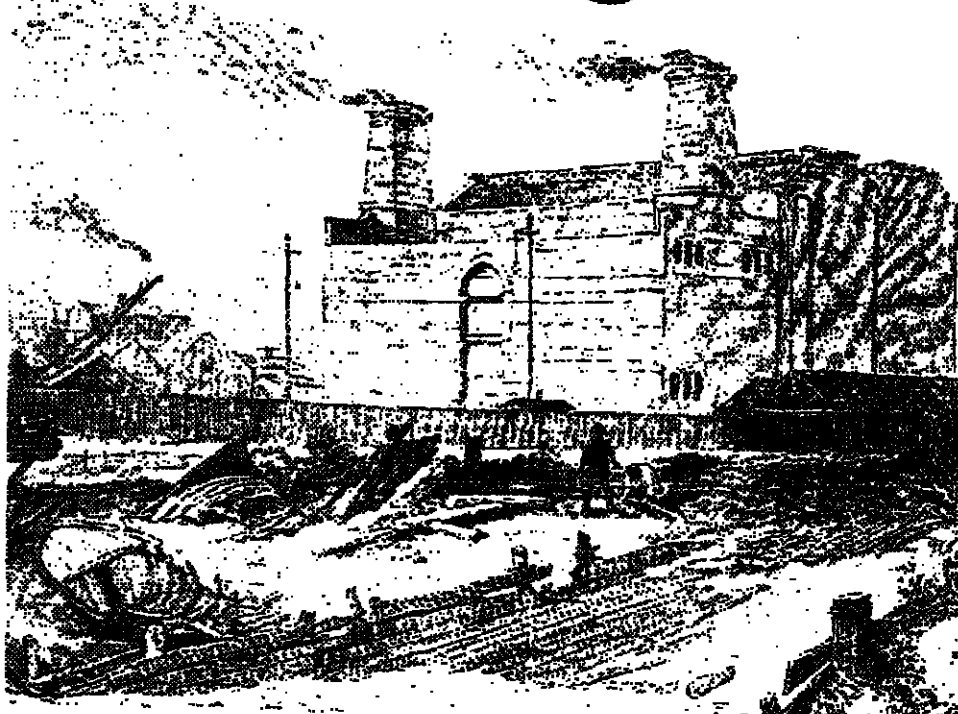


4

FOCUS

LIGHTING UP LONDON/2

Alternating triumph



Ferranti's remarkable power station at Deptford in October 1889 and above, 1966 picture of the station in its heyday

With the gas industry posing the main threat to the development of electricity for lighting in the mid-1880s, Sebastian Ziani de Ferranti was the first to suggest that the example of the gas boards should be used to further his own vision of a London completely connected to an electricity supply provided from a network of massive power stations.

He started to persuade the directors of the London Electric Supply Corporation of his plans and such was the force of his argument that £1 million — an awesome sum at that time — was immediately raised and more or less put in the hands of the 21-year-old engineer to build a power station at Deptford.

The Ferranti-operated plant at Grosvenor Gallery was at that time considered large with its four 750 horsepower steam engines. The plans now being promoted by Ferranti were for four 10,000 horsepower engines to be built,

driving four 500-ton alternators which would each produce 10,000 volts.

Construction work began in April 1888 and by working day and night the construction workers had the main building ready for the boilers and main motors a year later.

While certain sectors of the community were heaping praise on Ferranti — he was described as the Michelangelo of Deptford by the more

was the view of most other engineers of the time that the future lay in the use of low-voltage, direct-current systems serving local communities.

Ferranti was the first of the "Big is Beautiful" school and said that economy was possible only by using high-voltage alternating current and transformers. The battleground had been drawn and the war of the systems was set to rage for years.

Thomas Edison, regarded as the genius of the day, had installed two 3,000-volt DC generators at Holborn Viaduct in 1882, but by 1889 when he visited the Deptford site he was still critical of the AC system, but was forced to admit that the Ferranti designs would be viable and that the standard of engineering left nothing to be desired.

This was followed by praise from the United States, where engineers were reported as saying that Ferranti had come closer than anyone in the provision of electricity in a

proper wholesale form. But Ferranti's plan to send power out at 10,000 volts hit a snag: the cables were not capable of handling the power.

The remedy, in typical Ferranti style, was for him to design and make his own cables, which was in itself a remarkable event in the history of electric power. The Ferranti mains were the first to separate the positive and negative conductors in the same insulated cable which could be directly buried underground.

Ferranti also hit on the idea of laying the cables along existing railway tracks, obviating the need to win permission to lay the cable through streets. The underground railway tunnels of the Metropolitan and District Railway Company were also used, but the then Board of Trade remained somewhat sceptical about the safety of the 10,000-volt cables going through the streets.

Ferranti, with typical showmanship, laid on a demonstration. Two of his assistants agreed to help, one holding a cold chisel while the other hammered it through a live 10,000-volt cable. They were unhurt and permission to lay the cables was given.

However, things did not go as smoothly as in the first two years. While he was working on developing his new cables for the main high-voltage supply, opposition to the laying of low-voltage cables into consumers' premises was

Switched-on way to pay for fuel as you use it

Every household has electricity. Almost all have gas and most are on the telephone, but it is electricity which is now accepted as one of life's absolute necessities.

For that reason the London Electricity Board, which has more domestic consumers among its customers than any of the other area boards in England and Wales, has also inherited one of the problem areas of the business. By its nature London has a large transient population and keeping track of consumers and debtors has in the past taken up excessive time.

Electricity has become the fuel mostly used by people who have had difficulties in meeting their heating bills. The use of coin-in-the-slot meters creates problems. People who are desperate for fuel break into their meters, which leads them into a downward cost spiral with possible fines and repair costs being added to debts they clearly cannot already cope with.

The collection of cash also has its drawbacks, but as a commercial enterprise the electricity boards cannot go on giving power on account to customers who cannot handle credit.

The answer, the LEB has found, is the Budget Meter. So successful has the operation been that the LEB has more or less taken up the entire output of such meters from the manufacturers for months to come. Other boards, keen to follow its initiative, are having to wait



The Budget Meter, a genuine pre-payment device, ideal for those who never want to owe anything, and the LEB's financial director, Gordon Rogers



bank-in-the-wall cash card. However, the card is put in a dispenser and is energized as cash is put in. The more cash put into the dispenser the more units are stored on the token's memory.

This has the advantage that the token can be altered to the consumer's and the LEB's requirements. A customer who owes the board a substantial amount can have a token issued which, for instance, will record nine units available for every 10 paid for in advance, one unit being used to pay off a proportion of the debt.

Ultimately the tokens could also be used to buy appliances on a similar basis, though the LEB already has its own credit-card operation, through which customers can buy appliances.

The LEB's financial director, Gordon Rogers, said: "We have to be aware that electricity is more of a necessity these days than any other fuel. Even 20 years ago, people could be cut off and use other fuels, but now that is something which can be done only as an absolute last resort. Our disconnection staff now try to offer the alternative of a Budget Meter and generally it is acceptable."

"Not every user of a Budget Meter is someone who has faced disconnection, but it is a more sophisticated alternative to cash meters and we are trying to ensure that people who have them are never more than half a mile away from a dispenser where their tokens can be energized."

War of the systems was to rage for years

romantically inclined — others were warning that his plan to bring power into central London at 10,000 volts would lead to disaster. Though power now comes in at 400,000 volts, at that time anything over 2,000 volts was considered dangerous.

At the centre of the debate

It's Your Choice

YORKSHIRE SWITCHGEAR GROUP

Yorkshire Switchgear and Engineering Co. EMMCO Switchgear Lindley Thompson Transformers

At Yorkshire Switchgear we believe electrical switchgear should do more than make a clean break of things. It should also offer constant protection and safety to both operators and equipment on the system.

Innovative thinking and an extensive research and development programme directed towards designing out problems and building in quality, have been responsible for the introduction of numerous UK and world firsts. For example, our established range of oil-less equipment. This includes the YSF6 gas filled range of circuit breakers, the FORMEL filled range of non-flammable transformers (both recently chosen by the LEB) and the SAIF range of switched and insulated fuse gear. Each product contributing directly towards greater security and safety.

Add to this impressive array of products our new SF6 Ring Main Units and the unique DYSCON INTERRUPTER and you will begin to realise why we hold a position of market leadership.

If you value the quality and integrity of your installations, be they low or high voltage, then make Yorkshire Switchgear your choice.

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PIRELLI GENERAL

Electrifying the nation

Pirelli General plc, established at Southampton in 1914, has been associated with every major development in cable voltages in the United Kingdom over the past 70 years. In the late 1920's the company supplied and installed the first 66,000 volt and 132,000 volt oil filled cables, including major installations around London. This was followed by the first 275,000 volt cables in the 1950's and the first 400,000 volt cables in the 1960's.

The company has also supplied the four British 270,000 volt direct current cables for the Cross-Channel submarine power link. Each cable was made in a continuous 50 kilometre length and weighed 1,700 tonnes.

Continuing the tradition Pirelli General supplied the first extruded insulation cables at 132,000 volts in the U.K. At this moment 132,000 volt extruded insulation cables are being installed along the Old Brompton Road for the London Electricity Board, following the installation of similar cables from Finsbury Market to City Road, thus maintaining the company's long association with London's electricity supply companies past and present.

PIRELLI... is Technology

Pirelli General plc
PO Box 4, Western Esplanade, Southampton SO9 7AE, England.
Telephone: Southampton (0703) 634366 Telex: 47522

A BRITISH COMPANY AND PART OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST CABLE MANUFACTURING GROUP

Manpower still being used to raise steam

growing and the subsequent public inquiry resulted in the directors of the company bowing to concern about safety of the 10,000-volt supply, agreeing to cut the generating capacity of Deptford by half.

Ferranti was bitter about the decision, but by 1900 his views were vindicated and demand was running at a level which justified his original grand scheme.

The breakthrough came when a station found new customers. Until then, power had been used mainly for lighting, but in 1904 the London County Council's trams started running on power from the station and then the London Brighton and South Coast Railway started to use the station's output.

The use of power for the railways presented the industry with a problem it faces today — that power demand surges just when staffing levels are at the lowest. Nowadays fast-response gas turbines and pumped storage systems can quickly meet surges in demand, but in the period just after the First World War, manpower was still being used to move coal to raise steam.

The cost-conscious managers tried to keep coal-burning to as low a level as possible and found that sudden surges of demand could catch them out.

Helping the London Electricity Board to celebrate 100 years of electricity in the Capital

Paragon Communications, one of the UK's top 20 public relations consultancies, is proud to have been associated with employee communications programmes on behalf of the LEB since 1982 and to have been appointed earlier this year to assist in a major publicity project to mark a century of electricity in London.

Paragon Communications plc, Film House, 142 Wardour Street, London W1V 3AU.
Tel: 01-734 6030

CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD WORKING FOR LONDON

- The CEGB provides high voltage electricity in bulk to twelve Area Boards in England and Wales.
- Supplies for LEB are brought in via the National Grid from power stations around the country.
- The National Grid enables electricity from the cheapest available power stations to be delivered wherever it is required at any time of the day or night.
- By using a variety of energy sources — mainly coal, nuclear and oil — to generate electricity, the Board is able to maintain a high security of supply.



ELECTRICITY

POWER ON DEMAND



Big Bang throws down a mighty challenge



Clive Myers, the LEB's commercial and marketing director, points out rather gleefully that no one has yet invented the gas VDU screen and IBM does not make gas-fired computers.

Electricity and gas do fight it out for a share of the domestic and industrial market — they both claim to be winning converts and both admit it can be a cut-throat business — but in the City offices and the new commercial developments in Docklands electricity is winning the battle.

The latest predictions show that demand in the coming decade will be far higher than even the most optimistic forecasters were predicting five years ago. For although the computers, VDUs, photocopiers and facsimile transmitters are remarkably energy-efficient there are an awful lot of them in the City.

This is causing the LEB some problems. In the 1960s its investment in hardware and new cabling was concentrated in the suburbs in expectation of a house-building boom and a subsequent rise in domestic demand that did not materialize.



Seat of power: engineers at the high-tech LEB primary control centre which distributes supplies throughout the London area.

Therefore, when the City started clamouring for power to sustain its new equipment and to air-condition new offices, new sub-station equipment was urgently needed and where space is expensive.

Mr Myers said: "Although we have been making ex-

cellent progress in turning our retail sales showrooms from loss to profit and are capturing a larger share of a fiercely competitive market, it is in the commercial sector that we have been making the greatest advances and winning new customers.

"Gas still has a very large share of the heating and air-conditioning market in the City, but we have been winning customers and the sheer volume of electrical equipment being installed in new high-tech offices makes this a vital market.

"The effects of Big Bang have been considerable and our staff has come up with

some remarkable solutions to problems this has generated.

"This has meant that we have to make sure that the supplies required can be provided and that the marketing people work with the engineers so that we can provide the reliable, efficient service."

The new customers in the City are among the world's most demanding, as they depend on electrically powered communication equipment that must have secure supplies. Any power cut could cost a company millions in lost business, so supply lines must be duplicated, even triplicated to avoid interruptions. The equipment must also be

installed in a controlled environment to ensure its reliability and the power supply must again be reliable.

This has meant that circuits and equipment have to be ultra-reliable and installation has to be quickly and expertly carried out. The LEB, as well as supplying the power, has been supplying the contracting skills to make sure that electrical wiring in the new buildings is properly installed.

Although London has one of the highest concentrations of electricity customers in the world, it does not have any large industrial users and since the closure of the power stations at Deptford, Battersea

and Bankside there is no generating capacity in the LEB area. There is an unmanned gas turbine station in west London, but it has been used only to meet urgent demand.

This has meant that the large power stations on the Thames estuary — at Kingsnorth, Littlebrook and Isle of Grain — have been used by the Central Electricity Generating Board to supply the capital, and in the late 1970s when the City's power demand started to rise the need for a new link into the City became apparent.

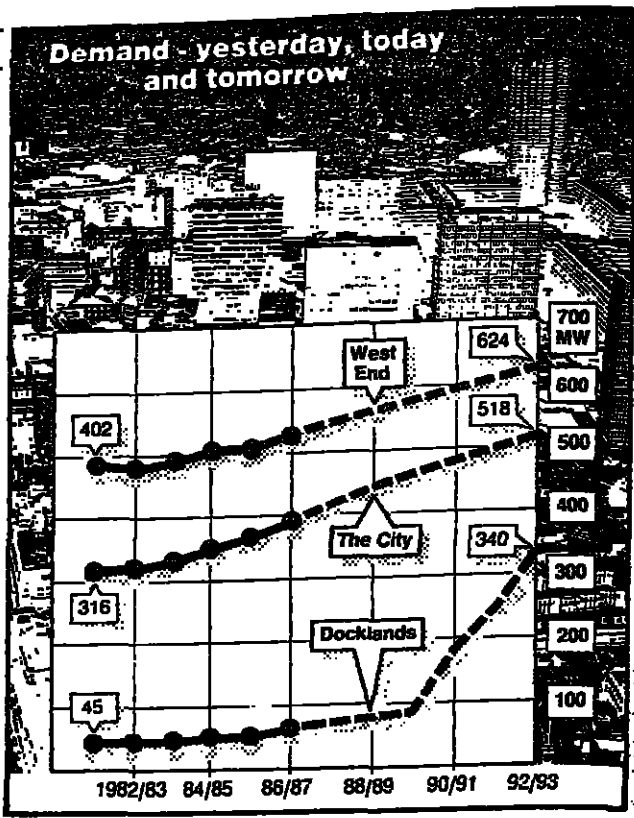
It was decided that a new 400-kilovolt supergrid connection to complement the existing 400KV overhead lines was needed. The LEB engineers hit on the idea of minimizing the environmental impact by putting the new cables underground and using the towpaths of the River Lea and the Regent's Canal as the route.

This also involved the building of new sub-stations, one of them at City Road, close to the load demand.

The result was that an indoor compact sub-station was needed. Luckily, GEC Switchgear had just completed development of its gas insulated switchgear.

The first totally enclosed unit of its kind — it uses sulphur hexafluoride gas as its coolant — was installed.

GEC sales staff have been able to demonstrate the unit installed in City Road to foreign customers and the LEB installation was largely instrumental in the Saudi Arabian power authorities choosing similar equipment for their new national grid.



The £1.6m SOS service

The LEB, with 1,800,000 customers, has ordered a new mobile communications system to put its service and engineering staff as close to the customer as possible.

The decision to replace the mobile radio systems currently in use with a single co-ordinated system at a cost of £1.6 million was prompted by new Department of Trade regulations that are soon to come into force, and which require the board to adopt new frequencies.

At present the LEB has 10 individual radio systems, each

with its own channels, to serve the commercial and engineering staff in each division.

The new system, Starnet, has been developed at a cost of £1 million during the past three years by engineers at Stornor in Camberley, Surrey, and is based on a modular software-controlled switching system that can be linked together to give wide area or even national coverage for thousands of users.

For the operator, Starnet allows many more users to be accommodated from a common pool of radio channels.

Landis & Gyr,
who are celebrating
75 years in the UK,
congratulate
the LEB in their
centenary year.

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LEB's Power Supply

Warwick Wright Motors of Chiswick are pleased to have raised the roof for L.E.B. Now it's time to raise the roof again. Congratulations to L.E.B. in their centenary year from one super power to another.

**Warwick Wright
CHISWICK**

Warwick Wright Motors Chiswick,
Light Commercial Division,
Chiswick Roundabout, Chiswick, London, W4 5QD. Tel: 01 747 1188



The Talbot Express high roof short wheel base van L.E.B.'s choice for their maintenance engineers

ICL's latest system sheds new light on an old problem.

ICL's new system, DINIS, has a practical solution for the millions of pounds lost in large electrical supply networks.

Simply by pin-pointing the loss, checking reliability and re-routing the supply on graphic display units, DINIS isn't only saving money but

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Suddenly, the LEB was faced with supplying a new area the size of Sheffield

Meeting the new challenge of the old docks

Within a comparatively short period the London Electricity Board has had to meet the demands of a new area effectively the same size as Sheffield.

The area is Docklands in London's East End, where massive, derelict industrial sites, none of them ever having been major users of electricity, are being converted into commercial centres which will depend on the computer, the VDU, the high-speed fax transmitter and the air-conditioning unit to drive their businesses and staff.

The LEB has contributed to this renaissance in the area by building 24 sub-stations, installing 11 miles of high-voltage

Power for the new railway

and 13 miles of low-voltage cable — with a further 27 sub-stations, three miles of hv and four miles of lv cable due for commissioning this year.

It will also provide the power for the trains that will take staff to work along the new computer-controlled Docklands Light Railway.

The use of electricity is expected to grow to a demand of 340 megawatts in the period



Power point: an artist's view of the Canary Wharf station on the Docklands Light Railway

1992/93. Eventually, when the Royal Group of docks are developed, demand will probably exceed 450MW, and the LEB will have achieved this without having a power station in its area.

It has the Thames and Midway stations on its doorstep but the progress in technology has allowed the new supergrid sub-stations built around London to take on the role of the old power stations without the disruption to the environment that fuel-burning stations can cause.

In most cases, the new developments have taken place on land owned by the power industry and previously used for operations which had a much more visible effect on the local environment.

Andy Maxton, who has been responsible for expanding the LEB market share in

Docklands and making sure that the demands of customers can be met, said: "With the amount of money at risk, as millions of pounds are traded, many companies require even higher security of supply (The LEB offers a 99.99 per cent security)."

A better life for residents

"The LEB is able to meet this requirement by complementing its standard equipment by a second or even a third supply fed from independent networks, thus providing a quality and security of supply no alternative in the world can better."

"It is not only the commercial customers that are benefiting from technology, the people who live in Docklands

also have the opportunity to enhance their environment and lower their costs. Heat exchangers, high insulation levels and ventilation schemes provide the basis of the low energy home."

"With no condensation or odours, high comfort levels, and low cost, plus the opportunity to install electrostatic filters which particularly help those with allergies, these new homes will, in the next five years, offer the only homes that will be compatible with the vision and the quality of Docklands."

Part-timers in the boardroom

Often accused of lagging behind the thrashing City companies, the nationalized industries could now be forgiven for allowing themselves a wry smile as the current call for an increase in the number of non-executive directors comes from the Stock Exchange.

The area electricity boards have always had them, initially known as part-time members but now by the more fashionable "non-execs" title, appointed by the Secretary of State for Energy for up to two five-year terms.

This has given the boards access to expertise from industry and commerce, banking and finance, the academic and trade union worlds.

The result, as the one of the London Electricity Board's non-executive members, Robert Horne, says has been to accelerate the move which had already started to put the boards on to a stronger commercial footing.

Mr Horne, chairman of the Horne's clothing chain, has pointed the lessons learned in the competitive retail world to the LEB and helped its retail operation take advantage of the developing new trends in High Street marketing and customer care.

Working with the board's full-time members and managers — from whom he in turn has learned some lessons which he has applied to his own business — he has helped move the network of High Street showrooms from loss to profit and helped the LEB boost its share of the turnover in what must be the fiercest sector of the retail sector, the electrical appliance market.

However, Mr Horne and his fellow non-executive directors not only bring expertise from their own fields: they are

normally businessmen with wide interests and experience.

Mr Horne is the author of a paper which has helped the LEB to evolve its policy towards its customers and create its customer care programme which involves training all staff who come into contact with the public on how they can help make the industry more efficient and better regarded.

He said: "The non-executive directors have been able to help and support the full-time members and bring their

Non-execs put board on a firm footing

expertise to the board at a time when it has been moving towards a more efficient, more customer-led role.

"We haven't been responsible for any of this, but we have helped the mood to accelerate."

The LEB has 56 showrooms. It considers them such an integral part of its network — 70 per cent of its customers pay their bills at showroom counters, a far higher proportion than at any other board — that it would strongly oppose any proposals to have them off as a separate



Sales point: non-executive directors have brought invaluable business expertise to the LEB's expanding retail operations

operation. It has found that by placing large orders with manufacturers, often in association with other area boards, it can achieve economies that can be passed on to customers.

And customers are showing a preference to buy equipment from an outlet which is backed

by a big servicing operation. The board has also found its credit offers are often more attractive to customers, who can pay at the same time as they call in to pay bills.

The introduction of its own charge card has meant that it is winning a large amount of repeat business.



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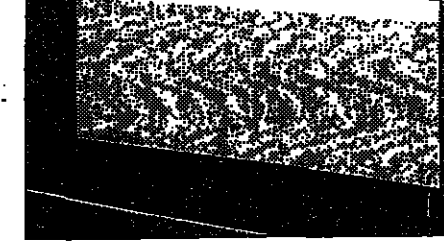
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for the BATHROOM...



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TELEVISION AND RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle



A detail from George Grosz's caricature 'Toads of Possession: Enemy of the State (Omnibus, BBC1, 9.30pm)

The dreamer with a sword

CHOICE

● The new season of *Omnibus* (BBC1, 9.30pm) starts in cracking form with a biography of the German artist, George Grosz. As Andrew Piddington's film demonstrates, Grosz's life was based on a fundamental contradiction. He is best known for his savage caricatures of the enemies of the Weimar Republic — the war profiteers, the militarists, the embryonic fascists. He had, too, a morbid (and ambivalent) fascination for the country's moral decay, charting with relish the vice and the prostitution. He was in and out of the courts and became public enemy number one. "My work," he said, "was my rifle and my sword." But he remained at heart a dreamer and a bourgeois. Making his escape just before Hitler came to power, he spent nearly 30 anti-climatic years in

the United States, losing his idealism and anger, hitting the bottle and becoming a pauper in the land of plenty. Piddington has boldly eschewed the conventional methods of tele-documentary and opted for an ambitious mix of archive film and dramatization (Kenneth Haigh plays Grosz), with pointed illustration from the artist's work. There is no commentary as such, rather a montage of Grosz's own words and those of his contemporaries. If the method sometimes puts drama above coherence, this is a vivid and challenging programme which stays in the memory long after the final credits have rolled.

Peter Waymark

● Peter Davalle writes: Touchingly, and given the volatile nature of her relationship with her possessive father, most appositely, Jill Balcon quotes from a poem by her dead husband C Day Lewis at the conclusion of *Father and Daughter* (Radio 4, 4.05pm). The lines talk about "selfhood beginning with the walking away and love being proved in the letting go". It was Michael Balcon's displeasure at his young daughter's walking away from the family circle and his refusal to praise her in anything she did (including her acting career and choice of husband) that caused her such distress in her early years. When bridge-building time eventually came, it came firmly and Jill Balcon describes the reconciliation process very tenderly indeed.



Sir Michael Balcon: Father and Daughter (Radio 4, 4.05pm)

VARIATIONS

BBC1 *WALLS* 8.55pm-9.00pm: Today's 1.50pm Sport 12.55pm-12.58pm News and weather. *SCOTLAND* 1.50pm-1.55pm: Scotland 1.55pm-1.58pm: Scotland 1.58pm-1.59pm: Scotland 1.59pm-1.60pm: Scotland 1.60pm-1.61pm: Scotland 1.61pm-1.62pm: Scotland 1.62pm-1.63pm: Scotland 1.63pm-1.64pm: Scotland 1.64pm-1.65pm: Scotland 1.65pm-1.66pm: Scotland 1.66pm-1.67pm: Scotland 1.67pm-1.68pm: Scotland 1.68pm-1.69pm: Scotland 1.69pm-1.70pm: Scotland 1.70pm-1.71pm: Scotland 1.71pm-1.72pm: Scotland 1.72pm-1.73pm: Scotland 1.73pm-1.74pm: Scotland 1.74pm-1.75pm: Scotland 1.75pm-1.76pm: Scotland 1.76pm-1.77pm: Scotland 1.77pm-1.78pm: Scotland 1.78pm-1.79pm: Scotland 1.79pm-1.80pm: Scotland 1.80pm-1.81pm: Scotland 1.81pm-1.82pm: Scotland 1.82pm-1.83pm: Scotland 1.83pm-1.84pm: Scotland 1.84pm-1.85pm: Scotland 1.85pm-1.86pm: Scotland 1.86pm-1.87pm: Scotland 1.87pm-1.88pm: Scotland 1.88pm-1.89pm: Scotland 1.89pm-1.90pm: Scotland 1.90pm-1.91pm: Scotland 1.91pm-1.92pm: Scotland 1.92pm-1.93pm: Scotland 1.93pm-1.94pm: 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Self-destructive act in Lord's bicentenary

By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

When the history of the next 200 years of MCC comes to be written, it is unlikely to contain many more depressing episodes than that on Wednesday when the Annual Report and Accounts for 1986 were thrown out in some confusion at the club's Annual General Meeting.

What makes the dispute so particularly wretched, apart from the fact that it is marring the year of the bicentenary — an occasion for celebration rather than self-destruction — is that it is so unnecessary. The point at issue is the extent to which the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) administrator, and benefits from the running of big matches at Lord's.

The Annual Report was rejected

because a fairly substantial majority of these present (estimated at 700 to 800) were unconvinced of the claim made by the committee that "the necessary safeguards to members' rights" were being insisted upon in the club's dealings with the TCCB. Many of those who voted against the committee did so, I believe, more through suspicion and ignorance than through conviction. There was, quite simply, a blockage.

The fact that MCC's solicitors were not as wholeheartedly in the home corner as might have been expected only fuelled the members' doubts. It implied that, yes, the committee might be in danger, just conceivably, of going beyond its mandate in the concessions it makes to the TCCB. Perhaps a warning to this effect was needed;

but that was as far as it should have been allowed to go.

Whether the members of MCC like it or not, the TCCB are constitutionally entitled to run Test matches in England, wherever they are played. As members of the TCCB, MCC are party too to an agreement whereby "the organization, administration and promotion of all Test, International and Trial matches in the United Kingdom" is vested with the Board.

The other functions and powers of the TCCB are:

- The organisation, administration and promotion of the County Championship and any other competition concerning the first class Counties.
- The receipt of the monies derived directly or indirectly from

Test matches at home, from overseas tours, from other matches and competitions organised by the Board and from other sources, the payment of the relevant expenses thereof and the distribution of the net receipts.

• The regulations governing the qualification and registration of cricketers in Test and competitive county cricket.

• The administration of disciplinary procedures regarding members of the Board, cricketers and others involved or formerly involved in cricket administered by the Board.

• The organisation, administration and promotion of tours to and from the United Kingdom.

• The negotiation of financial and playing conditions with the overseas governing bodies concerned

for tours to and from the United Kingdom.

Nothing has been given away by MCC since last year's Annual General Meeting, and nothing is done differently at Lord's when England play there than at the Oval or Old Trafford or any of the other Test grounds. Should MCC, through their members, insist upon taking back full control of all games played at Lord's under the Board's name, they will do so at the risk of losing Test cricket and one-day finals from the ground. That may seem unthinkable, but it has to be taken into account.

To take the heat out of Wednesday's meeting, all that was needed could have been a clear statement of the terms of the TCCB's rights (they have been much the same for the last eight years), together with reassurances

that MCC's patrimony was being forcefully and strictly protected and would never be further compromised without being put to the vote. Instead, following a breakdown of communications, there will now have to be, presumably, a Special General Meeting, accompanied by a postal ballot, the cost of which is unlikely to run to anything less than £5,000.

In more ways than one, the officers at Lord's had been caught off-guard. A full car-park 90 minutes before the meeting caused chaos in the roads surrounding the ground. The prejudice of the members may have come as a surprise, as, quite possibly, did the indignation of some of them. How infinitely sad too that the Secretary's official residence behind the Grand Stand should have been used as a kind of advance

headquarters by the opposing forces.

At the bicentennial anniversary dinner which followed the meeting, a message of congratulation from Sir Donald Bradman was read out, in which he said: "Cricket looks to you (MCC) to be strong, very strong, from now on." Although the great batsman was referring to the way in which the club, in their unique position, must lead the fight to maintain those standards still just associated with the game in general, his endorsement could well have been fitted into a more specific context. For it is strength (not stubbornness), which MCC members rightly expect of their committee and feel they may not be getting. Such fears are, I believe, exaggerated, though there will always be those whom it suits to think otherwise.

Claesen is left out of Cup Final line-up

Nico Claesen will not be in Tottenham Hotspur's FA Cup Final line-up against Coventry City tomorrow week. Claesen, a Belgian international, is guaranteed one of the two Tottenham substitutes' shirts but that may not be sufficient to keep him at the club.

He said recently: "Everyone wants to play at Wembley and if I don't it could be the end for me." Now he must decide whether to swallow his pride.

David Platt, the Tottenham manager, made it clear yesterday that the only question mark on team selection concerns the right back position, which will go either to Stevens or Hughton. Platt's 13 became a virtual formality yesterday when Galvin, their winger, entered hospital for a carriage operation. Galvin, who was in the starting line-up when Tottenham triumphed at Wembley in 1981 and 1982, would have been in contention for a place on the bench.

Stevens returns at Watford tomorrow ready to make a late challenge for a place against Coventry. He has missed six games with ligament trouble but Platt explained: "Hughton saw a specialist this week because he has a bit of swelling on the knee after his carriage trouble. Stevens will play on Saturday and towards the middle of the week I'll have a look at both players and decide who plays at Wembley."

Mabbutt, who has performed heroics at centre back despite rib and foot problems, will soldier on with the aid of pain-killers. Both finalists will pay a visit to Wembley next midweek. Tottenham go on Wednesday afternoon after holding their open day at their Chesham training ground.

Rocheteau set to play in England

By Ian Ross

Dominique Rocheteau, the French World Cup player, wants to finish his illustrious career in England. At the age of 32, Rocheteau is willing to turn his back on lucrative offers from the United States, Switzerland and his native country to fulfil his long held dream of playing in the English game.

Capped more than 40 times by France and the veteran of three World Cup finals the flamboyant winger with the distinctive shoulder-length hair has been granted a free transfer by Paris St Germain and is ready to talk to first division clubs and "ambitious" second division clubs.

"I want to come over and play in England. I have taken this decision and will not be changing my mind."

Burnley suffered a double blow yesterday when the Football League said there would be no replay of Monday's defeat at Crewe Alexandra, or a change in the relegation rules.

The fallen Lancashire giants protested that their 1-0 defeat at Crewe finished three minutes early with only a 42 minute second half, thus denying them the opportunity to notch a vital equaliser. Burnley, who must win their final game of the season, against Orient, tomorrow to have any chance of avoiding the drop, also complained about the rules which came into force this season whereby the bottom club is automatically relegated to the GM Vauxhall Conference.

England yesterday named their under-21 squad for an eight-nations international tournament in Toulon, France, from June 7 to 14.

SQUAD: T. Flowers (Southampton), D. Digby (Swansea), M. Gibbs (Sheff Wed), G. Aston (Aston Villa), S. Sedgley (Coventry), A. Adams (Aston Villa), G. Cresswell (Aston Villa), M. Keane (Aston Villa), G. Rosten (Aston Villa), P. Carr (Nottingham Forest), M. Hayes (Aston Villa), N. Clough (Nottingham Forest), R. Rosario (Norwich), P. Simpson (Manchester City).

Yorkshire holding a slight edge

By Richard Streeton

HEADINGLEY: Yorkshire with three second-innings wickets in hand, lead Hampshire by 261 runs.

Seventeen wickets fell during some eventful cricket yesterday as nearly everyone continued to struggle on a pitch from which the ball came through at varying heights. Hampshire lost all 10 wickets while 63 runs were scored but Yorkshire, with a lead of 138, met problems in their turn.

Moxon and Metcalfe gave Yorkshire's second innings a sound start, the third time in the match that each side's opening pair have laid a foundation. Once again, though, the first dismissal was the prelude to a collapse. Moxon at 57 was caught behind against James and the other main batsmen soon followed him back to the pavilion.

Tremlett had Blakey held at second slip and caused Sharp to play on. Connor took his first wicket of the match when Love was also caught at slip and then Marshall claimed Neil Hartley and Metcalfe in successive overs. Hartley did not offer a stroke; Metcalfe sliced a catch to deep third man.

Hampshire's collapse was

unexpected after Greenidge and Terry shared a first wicket stand of 85 without seeming to be in any difficulty.

Jarvis and Sidebottom, the new ball bowlers, could make no impression but the pattern changed abruptly when Peter Hartley and Fletcher bowled together. Both swung the ball in the heat haze and four wickets fell in seven overs, with the heart wrenched out of the innings.

Hartley dismissed Terry and Greenidge with his first eight balls and finished his 12 overs at a cost of only 14 runs. He bowled Terry as he played down the wrong line and owed Greenidge's wicket to a remarkable catch by Blakey, who was deputising for the injured Bairstow behind the stumps.

In between these two wickets, Fletcher dismissed Nicholas. He got a ball to rear nastily and Nicholas could only fend it off to Neil Hartley.

Fletcher went on to beat a tentative forward defensive stroke by Turner before at the Kirkstall end to take advantage of a spot from which the ball's behaviour was always unreliable. The move worked with Smith going the

same way as Nicholas.

Hampshire lost two more wickets after lunch before Marshall and Parks. The eighth wicket pair, steered them past the follow-on figure, though Carrick would probably not have enforced it. Jarvis took the last three wickets but Hartley and Fletcher were responsible for the main breakthrough.

YORKSHIRE: First Innings 286 for 8 dec (M D Moxon 58)

Second Innings
M D Moxon c Parks b James 34
A A Metcalfe c Smith b Marshall 36
P J Blakey c Terry b Tremlett 1
K Sharp b Tremlett 1
J D Love c Greenidge b Connor 0
N Hartley bow b Marshall 0
P Carrick bow b Marshall 13
A Sidebottom not out 26
P J Hartley not out 0
Extras (b 4, lb 6, nb 1) 11
Total (12 wickets) 123

HAMPSHIRE: First Innings
C G Greenidge c Blakey b P J Hartley 54
V P Terry b P J Hartley 23
M C J Nicholas c S N Hartley b Fletcher 11
D R Turner b Fletcher 0
K D James run out 20
M D Marshall b Jarvis 0
T M Tremlett b Fletcher 0
R J Parks not out 14
C A Connor bow b Jarvis 0
Extras (b 9, nb 4) 13
Total (61.3 overs) 148

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-57, 2-62, 3-74, 4-81, 5-82, 6-83, 7-123.
BOWLING: Jarvis 18.3-4-43-3; Sidebottom 12.5-5-28-3; P J Hartley 12.5-14-24-2; Bonnar points: Yorkshire 7, Hampshire 3. Umpires: D O Ooster and J W Holder.

Glorious unpredictability

By Marcus Williams

WORCESTER: Worcester-shire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 101 runs ahead of Sussex.

The glorious unpredictability of cricket was graphically demonstrated here yesterday. Shortly before tea Sussex were coasting along towards Worcester's large first-innings total of 272 for three, with Green having completed a highly capable 100; 12 balls later they were 274 for eight after Botham removed Green and Radford produced a burst of four wickets in an over.

Radford, always lively in pace though latterly erring in control, also took the last two wickets to finish with seven for 82 in 25.5 overs, but perhaps after all it could have been foreseen: in the identical fixture last season Radford also bowled 25.5 overs in Sussex's first innings and took seven wickets, though on that occasion he conceded 94 runs.

Sussex had resumed at 32 for no wicket and soon lost Allan to the first of three catches at first slip by D'Oliveira during a lively opening burst from Dilley.

The pitch did not have a lot of pace but the variations of bounce called for vigilance from the batsmen.

Parker, ever eager to attack, scored 51 with eight fouls out of a second-wicket partnership of 90 with Green before Radford found his outside edge and Botham pounced the catch at second slip. From 151 for two at lunch the score moved along at a steady five runs an over afterwards, although progress appeared more leisurely. The departure of Alan Wells at 189, beaten in the flight by Illingworth, scarcely impeded progress.

It was with the recall of Botham and Radford that the mayhem began. Green was tempted to hook at a bouncer from Botham and was caught behind: then came Radford's over.

The first ball lifted viciously outside off stump and Standing could only edge to first slip; Gould took a single from the second; Wells was leg-before to the third, offering no stroke, and the fourth, a yorker, ripped through le Roux's guard. Waring thrust

his front pad at the hat-trick ball, but the bowler's appeal for leg-before and short legs' for a catch were rejected by umpire Leadbeater. He was more impressed, however, by the last ball, which trapped Waring plumb in front.

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Innings 366 for 8 dec (G A Hick 107, D B D'Oliveira 56, J T Bonnar 54, M J Weston 52)

Second Innings
T S Curtis c Botham b Dilley 21
M J Weston c Gould b Le Roux 26
G A Hick not out 15
Extras (b 6, lb 2, nb 1) 9
Total (11.3 overs) 77
P A Naele, D B D'Oliveira, J T Bonnar, P J Rhodes, P J Newport, R K Illingworth, N Radford and G R Dilley to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-38, 2-41, 3-42, 4-43, 5-44, 6-45, 7-46, 8-47, 9-48, 10-49, 11-50, 12-51, 13-52, 14-53, 15-54, 16-55, 17-56, 18-57, 19-58, 20-59, 21-60, 22-61, 23-62, 24-63, 25-64, 26-65, 27-66, 28-67, 29-68, 30-69, 31-70, 32-71, 33-72, 34-73, 35-74, 36-75, 37-76, 38-77, 39-78, 40-79, 41-80, 42-81, 43-82, 44-83, 45-84, 46-85, 47-86, 48-87, 49-88, 50-89, 51-90, 52-91, 53-92, 54-93, 55-94, 56-95, 57-96, 58-97, 59-98, 60-99, 61-100, 62-101, 63-102, 64-103, 65-104, 66-105, 67-106, 68-107, 69-108, 70-109, 71-110, 72-111, 73-112, 74-113, 75-114, 76-115, 77-116, 78-117, 79-118, 80-119, 81-120, 82-121, 83-122, 84-123, 85-124, 86-125, 87-126, 88-127, 89-128, 90-129, 91-130, 92-131, 93-132, 94-133, 95-134, 96-135, 97-136, 98-137, 99-138, 100-139, 101-140, 102-141, 103-142, 104-143, 105-144, 106-145, 107-146, 108-147, 109-148, 110-149, 111-150, 112-151, 113-152, 114-153, 115-154, 116-155, 117-156, 118-157, 119-158, 120-159, 121-160, 122-161, 123-162, 124-163, 125-164, 126-165, 127-166, 128-167, 129-168, 130-169, 131-170, 132-171, 133-172, 134-173, 135-174, 136-175, 137-176, 138-177, 139-178, 140-179, 141-180, 142-181, 143-182, 144-183, 145-184, 146-185, 147-186, 148-187, 149-188, 150-189, 151-190, 152-191, 153-192, 154-193, 155-194, 156-195, 157-196, 158-197, 159-198, 160-199, 161-200, 162-201, 163-202, 164-203, 165-204, 166-205, 167-206, 168-207, 169-208, 170-209, 171-210, 172-211, 173-212, 174-213, 175-214, 176-215, 177-216, 178-217, 179-218, 180-219, 181-220, 182-221, 183-222, 184-223, 185-224, 186-225, 187-226, 188-227, 189-228, 190-229, 191-230, 192-231, 193-232, 194-233, 195-234, 196-235, 197-236, 198-237, 199-238, 200-239, 201-240, 202-241, 203-242, 204-243, 205-244, 206-245, 207-246, 208-247, 209-248, 210-249, 211-250, 212-251, 213-252, 214-253, 215-254, 216-255, 217-256, 218-257, 219-258, 220-259, 221-260, 222-261, 223-262, 224-263, 225-264, 226-265, 227-266, 228-267, 229-268, 230-269, 231-270, 232-271, 233-272, 234-273, 235-274, 236-275, 237-276, 238-277, 239-278, 240-279, 241-280, 242-281, 243-282, 244-283, 245-284, 246-285, 247-286, 248-287, 249-288, 250-289, 251-290, 252-291, 253-292, 254-293, 255-294, 256-295, 257-296, 258-297, 259-298, 260-299, 261-300, 262-301, 263-302, 264-303, 265-304, 266-305, 267-306, 268-307, 269-308, 270-309, 271-310, 272-311, 273-312, 274-313, 275-314, 276-315, 277-316, 278-317, 279-318, 280-319, 281-320, 282-321, 283-322, 284-323, 285-324, 286-325, 287-326, 288-327, 289-328, 290-329, 291-330, 292-331, 293-332, 294-333, 295-334, 296-335, 297-336, 298-337, 299-338, 300-339, 301-340, 302-341, 303-342, 304-343, 305-344, 306-345, 307-346, 308-347, 309-348, 310-349, 311-350, 312-351, 313-352, 314-353, 315-354, 316-355, 317-356, 318-357, 319-358, 320-359, 321-360, 322-361, 323-362, 324-363, 325-364, 326-365, 327-366, 328-367, 329-368, 330-369, 331-370, 332-371, 333-372, 334-373, 335-374, 336-375, 337-376, 338-377, 339-378, 340-379, 341-380, 342-381, 343-382, 344-383, 345-384, 346-385, 347-386, 348-387, 349-388, 350-389, 351-390, 352-391, 353-392, 354-393, 355-394, 356-395, 357-396, 358-397, 359-398, 360-399, 361-400, 362-401, 363-402, 364-403, 365-404, 366-405, 367-406, 368-407, 369-408, 370-409, 371-410, 372-411, 373-412, 374-413, 375-414, 376-415, 377-416, 378-417, 379-418, 380-419, 381-420, 382-421, 383-422, 384-423, 385-424, 386-425, 387-426, 388-427, 389-428, 390-429, 391-430, 392-431, 393-432, 394-433, 395-434, 396-435, 397-436, 398-437, 399-438, 400-439, 401-440, 402-441, 403-442, 404-443, 405-444, 406-445, 407-446, 408-447, 409-448, 410-449, 411-450, 412-451, 413-452, 414-453, 415-454, 416-455, 417-456, 418-457, 419-458, 420-459, 421-460, 422-461, 423-462, 424-463, 425-464, 426-465, 427-466, 428-467, 429-468, 430-469, 431-470, 432-471, 433-472, 434-473, 435-474, 436-475, 437-476, 438-477, 439-478, 440-479, 441-480, 442-481, 443-482, 444-483, 445-484, 446-485, 447-486, 448-487, 449-488, 450-489, 451-490, 452-491, 453-492, 454-493, 455-494, 456-495, 457-496, 458-497, 459-498, 460-499, 461-500, 462-501, 463-502, 464-503, 465-504, 466-505, 467-506, 468-507, 469-508, 470-509, 471-510, 472-511, 473-512, 474-513, 475-514, 476-515, 477-516, 478-517, 479-518, 480-519, 481-520, 482-521, 483-522, 484-523, 485-524, 486-525, 487-526, 488-527, 489-528, 490-529, 491-530, 492-531, 493-532, 494-533, 495-534, 496-535, 497-536, 498-537, 499-538, 500-539, 501-540, 502-541, 503-542, 504-543, 505-544, 506-545, 507-546, 508-547, 509-548, 510-549, 511-550, 512-551, 513-552, 514-553, 515-554, 516-555, 517-556, 518-557, 519-558, 520-559, 521-560, 522-561, 523-562, 524-563, 525-564, 526-565, 527-566, 528-567, 529-568, 530-569, 531-570, 532-571, 533-572, 534-573, 535-574, 536-575, 537-576, 538-577, 539-578, 540-579, 541-580, 542-581, 543-582, 544-583, 545-584, 546-585, 547-586, 548-587, 549-588, 550-589, 551-590, 552-591, 553-592, 554-593, 555-594, 556-595, 557-596, 558-597, 559-598, 560-599, 561-600, 562-601, 563-602, 564-603, 565-604, 566-605, 567-606, 568-607, 569-608, 570-609, 571-610, 572-611, 573-612, 574-613, 575-614, 576-615, 577-616, 578-617, 579-618, 580-619, 581-620, 582-621, 583-622, 584-623, 585-624, 586-625, 587-626, 588-627, 589-628, 590-629, 591-630, 592-631, 593-632, 594-633, 595-634, 596-635, 597-636, 598-637, 599-638, 600-639, 601-640, 602-641, 603-642, 604-643, 605-644, 606-645, 607-646, 608-647, 609-648, 610-649, 611-650, 612-651, 613-652, 614-653, 615-654, 616-655, 617-656, 618-657, 619-658, 620-659, 621-660, 622-661, 623-662, 624-663, 625-664, 626-665, 627-666, 628-667, 629-668, 630-669, 631-670, 632-671, 633-672, 634-673, 635-674, 636-675, 637-676, 638-677, 639-678, 640-679, 641-680, 642-681, 643-682, 644-683, 645-684, 646-685, 647-686, 648-687, 649-688, 650-689, 651-690, 652-691, 653-692, 654-693, 655-694, 656-695, 657-696, 658-697, 659-698, 660-699, 661-700, 662-701, 663-702, 664-703, 665-704, 666-705, 667-706, 668-707, 669-708, 670-709, 671-710, 672-711, 673-712, 674-713, 675-714, 676-715, 677-716, 678-717, 679-718, 680-719, 681-720, 682-721, 683-722, 684-723, 685-724, 686-725, 687-726, 688-727, 689-728, 690-729, 691-730, 692-731, 693-732, 694-733, 695-734, 696-735, 697-736, 698-737, 699-738, 700-739, 701-740, 702-741, 703-742, 704-743, 705-744, 706-745, 707-746, 708-747, 709-748, 710-749, 711-750, 712-751, 713-752, 714-753, 715-7